IMPRIMATUR.

*Jo: Berkenhead.*

Nov. 11. 1662.

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# Hudibras.

## THE FIRST PART.

*Written in the time of the late Wars.*

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# Hudibras.

THE FIRST PART.

# HUDIBRAS.

## THE ARGUMENT OF The First Canto.

*Sir* Hudibras *his passing worth,*
*The manner how he sally'd forth:*
*His Arms and Equipage are shown;*
*His Horse's Virtues, and his own:*
*Th' Adventure of the* Bear *and* Fiddle
*Is sung, but breaks off in the middle.*

## *Canto* I.

WHen *civil Dudgeon* first grew high,
And men fell out they knew not why;
When hard words, *Jealousies* and *Fears*,
Set Folks together by the ears,
And made them fight, like mad or drunk,
For Dame RELIGION as for Punk,
Whose honesty they all durst swear for,
Though not a man of them knew wherefore:

VVhen *Goſpel-trumpeter*, ſurrounded
With long-ear'd rout, to Battel ſounded,
And Pulpit, Drum Eccleſiaſtick
VVas beat with fiſt, inſtead of a ſtick:
Then did Sir *Knight* abandon dwelling,
And out he rode a Colonelling.

A wight he was, whoſe very ſight wou'd
Entitle him *Mirrour of Knighthood*;
That never bow'd his ſtubborn knee
To any thing but Chivalry,
Nor put up blow, but that which laid
Right VVorſhipful on ſhoulder-blade:
Chief of Domeſtick Knights and Errant,
Either for Chartel or for VVarrant:
Great on the Bench, Great in the Saddle,
That could as well bind o're, as ſwaddle:
Mighty he was at both of theſe,
And ſtyl'd of *War* as well as *Peace*.
(So ſome Rats of amphibious nature,
Are either for the Land or VVater.)
But here our Authors make a doubt,
VVhether he were more wiſe, or ſtout.
Some hold the one, and ſome the other;
But howſoe're they make a pother,
The difference was ſo ſmall, his Brain
Outweigh'd his Rage but half a grain:
Which made ſome take him for a tool
That Knaves do work with, call'd a Fool.

For't

For 't has been held by many, that
As *Montaigne*, playing with his Cat,
Complains ſhe thought him but an Aſſe,
Much more ſhe would Sir *Hudibras*.
But they't miſtaken very much,
'Tis plain enough he was no ſuch.
We grant, although he had much wit,
H' was very ſhie of uſing it:
As being loath to wear it out,
And therefore bore it not about,
Unleſſe on Holy-dayes, or ſo,
As men their beſt apparel do.
Beſide 'tis known he could ſpeak *Greek*,
As naturally as Pigs ſqueek:
That *Latin* was no more difficile,
Then to a Blackbird 'tis to whiſtle.
Being rich in both he never ſcanted
His bounty unto ſuch as wanted;
But much of either would afford
To many that had not one word.
For *Hebrew* Roots, although th' are found
To flouriſh moſt in barren ground,
He had ſuch plenty, as ſuffic'd
To make ſome think him circumcis'd:
And truly ſo he was perhaps,
Not as a *Proſelyte*, but for *Claps*.

He was in *Logick* a great Critick,
Profoundly skill'd in Analytick.

He could diſtinguiſh, and divide
A hair 'twixt South and South-weſt ſide:
On either which he would diſpute,
Confute, change hands, and ſtill confute.
He'd undertake to prove by force
Of Argument, a Man's no Horſe.
He'd prove a Buzzard is no Fowl,
And that a *Lord* may be an Owl;
A Calf an *Alderman*, a Goose a *Juſtice*,
And Rooks *Committee-men* and *Truſtees*.
He'd run in Debt by Diſputation,
And pay with Ratiocination.
All this by Syllogiſm, true
In mood and figure, he would doe.

For *Rhetorick*, he could not ope
His mouth, but out there flew a Trope:
And when he happen'd to break off
I'th' middle of his ſpeech, or cough,
H' had hard words ready, to ſhew why,
And tell what Rules he did it by.
Elſe when with greateſt art he ſpoke,
You'd think he talk'd like other folke.
But when he pleas'd to ſhew't, his ſpeech
In loftineſs of ſound was rich,
A *Babyloniſh* Dialect,
Which learned Pedants much affect.
It was a particolour'd dreſs
Of patch'd and pyball'd Languages:

'Twas

'Twas *Engliſh* cut on *Greek* and *Latin*,
Like Fuſtian heretofore on Sattin.
It had an odde promiſcuous Tone,
As if h' had talk'd three parts in one.
Which made ſome think when he did gabble,
Th' had heard three Labourers of *Babel*;
Or *Cerberus* himſelf pronounce
A Leaſh of Languages at once.
This he as volubly would vent,
As if his ſtock would ne're be ſpent.
And truly to ſupport that charge
He had ſupplies as vaſt and large.
For he could coyn or counterfeit
New words, with little or no wit:
Words ſo debas'd and hard, no ſtone
Was hard enough to touch them on.
And when with haſty noiſe he ſpoke 'em,
The Ignorant for currant took 'em.

In *Mathematicks* he was greater
Then *Tycho Brahe* or *Erra Pater*:
For he by *Geometrick* ſcale
Could take the ſize of *Pots of Ale*;
Reſolve by Sines and Tangents ſtraight,
If *Bread* or *Butter* wanted weight;
And wiſely tell what hour o'th' day
The Clock does ſtrike, by *Algebra*.

Beſide he was a ſhrewd *Philoſopher*,
And had read every text and gloſs over:
What ever *Sceptick* could inquere for;
For every *why* he had a *wherefore*:
Knew more then forty of them do,
As far as words and terms could go.
All which he underſtood by rote,
And as occaſion ſerv'd, would quote;
No matter whether right or wrong:
They might be either ſaid or ſung,
His Notions fitted things ſo well,
That which was which he could not tell;
But oftentimes miſtook the one
For th' other, as great Clerks have done.
He'd tell where Entity and Quiddity,
The Ghoſts of defunct bodies, flie;
Where Truth in perſon does appear,
Like words congeal'd in Northern air.
He knew *what's what*, and that's as high
As *Metaphyſick* wit can flie.
In *School-Divinity* as able
As he that hight *Irrefragable*;
A ſecond *Thomas*, or, at once
To name them all, another *Dunce*:
For he a Rope of ſand could twiſt,
As tough as learned *Sorboniſt*;
And weave fine Cobwebs, fit for skull
That's empty when the Moon is full;

Such

Such as take Lodgings in a head
That's to be let unfurniſhed.
He could raiſe ſcruples dark and nice,
And after ſolve 'em in a trice:
As if Divinity had catch'd
The Itch, of purpoſe to be ſcratch'd;
Or, like a Mountebank, did wound
And ſtab her ſelf with doubts profound,
Onely to ſhew with how ſmall pain
The ſores of Faith are cur'd again;
Although by woful proof we find,
They alwayes leave a ſcar behind.
He knew the ſeat of Paradiſe,
Could tell in what degree it lies:
What *Adam* dreamt of when his Bride
Came from her Cloſet in his ſide:
Whether the Devil tempted her
By a *high Dutch* Interpreter:
If either of them had a Navel;
Who firſt made Muſick malleable:
Whether the Serpent at the Fall
Had cloven feet, or none at all.
All this, without a Gloſſe or Comment,
He would unriddle in a moment
In proper terms, ſuch as men ſmatter
When they throw out and miſs the matter.

For his *Religion* it was fit
To match his learning and his wit:

'Twas

'Twas *Presbyterian* true blew,
For he was of that stubborn Crew
Of Errant Saints, whom all men grant
To be the true Church *Militant*:
Such as do build their Faith upon
The holy Text of *Pike* and *Gun*;
Decide all Controversies by
Infallible *Artillery*;
And prove their Doctrine Orthodox
By Apostolick *Blows* and *Knocks*;
Call Fire and Sword and Desolation,
A *godly-thorough-Reformation*,
Which always must be carry'd on,
And still be doing, never done:
As if Religion were intended
For nothing else but to be mended.
A Sect, whose chief Devotion lies
In odde perverse Antipathies,
In falling out with that or this,
And finding somewhat still amisse:
More peevish, cross, and splenatick,
Then Dog distract, or Monky sick:
That with more care keep holy-day
The wrong, then others the right way:
Still so perverse and opposite,
As if they worshipp'd God for spight.
The self-same thing they will abhor
One way, and long another for.

Free-

Free-will they one way disavow,
Another, nothing else allow.
All Piety consists therein
In them, in other men all Sin.
Rather then fail, they will defie
That which they love most tenderly,
Quarrel with *mince Pies*, and disparage
Their best and dearest friend, *Plum-porridge*;
Fat *Pig* and *Goose* it self oppose,
And blaspheme *Custard* through the *nose*.
Th' Apostles of this fierce Religion,
Like *Mahomet's*, were Ale and Widgeon,
To whom our Knight by fast inclining
Of wit and temper was so linkt,
As if Hypocrisie and Non-sense
Had got th' Advouson of his Conscience.

Thus was he gifted and accoutred,
We mean on th' inside, not the outward:
That next of all we shall discusse;
Then listen Sirs, It followeth thus.

His tawny *Beard* was th' equal grace
Both of his wisdom and his face;
In Cut and Dy so like a tile,
A sudden view it would beguile:
The upper part thereof was Whey,
The nether Orange mixt with Gray,

This

This hairy Meteor did denounce
The fall of Scepters and of Crowns;
With grizly type did represent
Declining Age of Government;
And tell with Hieroglyphick Spade,
Its own grave and the State's were made.
Like *Sampson's* Heart-breakers, it grew
In time to make a nation rue;
Though it contributed its own fall,
To wait upon the publick downfall.
It was monastick, and did grow
In holy Orders, by strict vow;
Of Rule as sullen and severe,
As that of rigid *Cordeliere*.
'Twas bound to suffer Persecution
And Martyrdom with resolution;
T' oppose it self against the hate
And vengeance of th' incensed State;
In whose defiance it was worn,
Still ready to be pull'd and torn,
With red-hot Irons to be tortur'd,
Revil'd, and spit upon, and martyr'd.
Maugre all which, 'twas to stand fast,
As long as Monarchy should last.
But when the State should hap to reel,
'Twas to submit to fatal steel,
And fall, as it was consecrate
A Sacrifice to fall of State;

Whose

Whose thred of life the fatal Sisters
Did twist together with its whiskers,
And twine so close, that time should never,
In life or death, their fortunes sever:
But with his rusty Sickle mow
Both down together at a blow.

So learned *Taliacotius* from
The brawny part of Porter's bum,
Cut supplemental Noses, which
Would last as long as Parent breech:
But when the Date of *Nock* was out,
Off dropt the Sympathetick Snout.

His *Back*, or rather Burthen, show'd
As if it stoop'd with its own load.
For as *Æneas* bore his Sire
Upon his shoulders through the fire:
Our Knight did bear no lesse a Pack
Of his own Buttocks on his back:
Which now had almost got the upper-
Hand of his Head, for want of Crupper.
To poize this equally, he bore
A *Paunch* of the same bulk before:
Which still he had a special care
To keep well cramm'd with thrifty fare;
As White-pot, Butter-milk, and Curds,
Such as a Country house affords;

With

VVith other Victual, which anon
VVe further shall dilate upon,
VVhen of his Hose we come to treat,
The Cup-bord where he kept his meat.

His *Dublet* was of sturdy Buff,
And though not Sword-yet Cudgel-proof;
VVhereby 'twas fitter for his use,
That fear'd no blows but such as bruise.

His *Breeches* were of rugged woollen,
And had been at the siege of *Bullen*;
To old King *Harry* so well known,
Some writers held they were his own.
Through they were lin'd with many a piece
Of Ammunition-Bread and Cheese,
And fat Black-puddings, proper food
For Warriers that delight in blood.
For, as we said, He alwayes chose
To carry Victle in his hose.
And though Knights Errant, as some think,
Of old did neither eat nor drink,
Because when thorough Deserts vast
And Regions desolate they past,
VVhere Belly-timber above ground
Or under was not to be found,
Unless they graz'd, there's not one word
Of their Provision on Record:

Which made ſome confidently write,
They had no ſtomachs, but to fight.
'Tis falſe: For *Arthur* wore in Hall
Round-Table like a Farthingal,
On which, with ſhirt pull'd out behind,
And eke before, his good Knights din'd.
Though 'twas no Table, ſome ſuppoſe,
But a huge pair of round Trunk-hoſe;
In which he carry'd as much meat
As he and all his Knights could eat,
When laying by their ſwords & truncheons,
They took their Breakfaſts or their Nun-cheons.
But let that paſs at preſent, leſt
We ſhould forget where we digreſt;
As learned Authors uſe, to whom
We leave it, and to th' purpoſe come.
His puiſſant *Sword* unto his ſide
Near his undaunted heart was ty'd,
With Basket-hilt that would hold broth,
And ſerve for fight and dinner both.
In it he melted Lead for Bullets,
To ſhoot at foes; and ſometimes Pullets,
To whom he bore ſo fell a Grutch,
He ne're gave quarter t'any ſuch.
The trenchant Blade, *Toledo* truſty,
For want of fighting was grown ruſty,
And ate into it ſelf, for lack
Of ſomebody to hew and hack.

The

The peaceful *Scabbard* where it dwelt,
The rancour of its edge had felt:
For of the lower end two handful
It had devoured, 'twas so manful;
And so much scorn'd to lurk in case,
As if it durst not shew its face.
In many desperate attempts,
Of Warrants, Exigents, Contempts,
It had appear'd with courage bolder
Then Sergeant *Bum*, invading shoulder.
Oft had it ta'ne possession,
And pris'ners too, or made them run.

This Sword a *Dagger* had his Page,
That was but little for his age:
And therefore waited on him so,
As Dwarfs upon Knights Errant do.
It was a serviceable Dudgeon,
Either for fighting or for drudging.
When it had stabb'd or broke a head,
It could scrape trenchers, or chip bread,
Toast cheese or bacon, though it were
To bait a Mouse-trap, 'twould not care.
'Twould make clean shooes, and in the earth
Set Leeks and Onyons, and so forth.
It had been Prentice to a Brewer,
Where this and more it did endure.
But left the trade, as many more
Have lately done on the same score.

In

In th' Holſters, at his ſaddle-bow,
Two aged *Piſtolls* he did ſtow,
Among the ſurplus of ſuch meat
As in his hoſe he could not get.
Theſe would inveigle Rats with th' ſent,
To forrage when the Cocks were bent,
And ſometime catch 'em with a ſnap
As cleverly as th' ableſt trap.
They were upon hard Duty ſtill,
And every night ſtood ſentinel,
To guard the magazine i'th' hoſe
From two-legg'd and from four-legg'd foes.

Thus clad and fortify'd, Sir Knight
From peaceful home ſet forth to fight,
But firſt with nimble active force
He got on th' outſide of his *Horſe*.
For having but one ſtirrup ty'd
T' his ſaddle, on the further ſide,
It was ſo ſhort, h' had much ado
To reach it with his deſperate toe.
But after many ſtrains and heaves,
He got up to the ſaddle eaves.
From whence he vaulted into th' ſeat
With ſo much vigour, ſtrength, and heat,
That he had almoſt tumbled over
With his own weight, but did recover,

By

By laying hold on tail and mane,
Which oft he us'd instead of Reyn.

But now we talk of mounting Steed,
Before we further do proceed,
It doth behove us to say something,
Of that which bore our valiant *Bumkin*.
The Beast was sturdy, large and tall,
With mouth of meal and eyes of wall:
I would say eye, for h' had but one,
As most agree, though some say none,
He was well stay'd, and in his Gate
Preserv'd a grave, majestick state.
At Spur or Switch no more he skipt,
Or mended pace, then *Spaniard* whipt:
And yet so fiery, he would bound,
As if he griev'd to touch the Ground:
That *Cæsar*'s Horse, who, as fame goes,
Had Corns upon his feet and toes,
Was not by half so tender-hooft,
Nor trod upon the ground so soft.
And as that Beast would kneel and stoop,
(Some write) to take his rider up:
So *Hudibras* his (tis well known)
VVould often doe, to set him down.
VVe shall not need to say what lack
Of Leather was upon his back:
For that was hidden under pad,
And breech of Knight gall'd full as bad.

His

His ſtrutting Ribs on both ſides ſhow'd
Like furrows he himſelf had plow'd:
For underneath the skirt of Pannel,
'Twixt every two there was a Channel.
His Dragling Tail hung in the Dirt,
Which on his Rider he would flurt
Still as his tender ſide he prickt:
With arm'd heel or with unarm'd kickt:
For *Hudibras* wore but one Spur,
As wiſely knowing, could he ſtir
To active trot one ſide of's Horſe,
The other would not hang an-Arſe.

A *Squire* he had whoſe name was *Ralph*,
That in th' adventure went his half.
(Though writers, for more ſtately tone,
Do call him *Ralpho*; 'tis all one:
And when we can with Meeter ſafe,
We'l call him ſo, if not plain *Raph*.
For Rhyme the Rudder is of Verſes,
With which like Ships they ſteer their courſes.)
An equal flock of Wit and Valour
He had laid in, by birth a Taylor.
The mighty *Tyrian* Queen that gain'd
With ſubtle ſhreds a Tract of Land,
Did leave it with a Caſtle fair
To his great Anceſtor, her Heir:
From him deſcended croſſe-legg'd Knights,
Fam'd for their faith and warlike fights
Againſt

Againſt the bloudy Canibal,
Whom they deſtroy'd both great and ſmall.
This ſturdy Squire had as well
As the bold *Trojan* Knight, ſeen hell,
Not with a counterfeited Paſs
Of Golden Bough, but true gold-lace.
His *Knowledge* was not far behind
The Knight's, but of another kind,
And he another way came by't:
Some call it *Gifts*, and ſome *New-light*;
A Liberal art that coſts no pains
Of ſtudy, induſtry, or brains.
His wits were ſent him for a token,
But in the carriage crackt and broken.
Like Commendation Nine-pence, crookt
With to and from my Love, it lookt.
He ne're conſider'd it, as loath
To look a gift-horſe in the mouth;
And very wiſely would lay forth
No more upon it then 'twas worth.
But as he got it freely, ſo
He ſpent it frank and freely too.
For Saints themſelves will ſometimes be
Of Gifts that coſt them nothing, free.
By means of this, with *hem* and *cough*,
Prolongers to enlightned ſnuff,
He could deep myſteries unriddle,
As eaſily as thread a needle.

For

For as of Vagabonds we say,
That they are ne're beside their way:
Whate're men speak by this *new Light*,
Still they are sure to be i'th right.
'Tis a *Dark-lanthorn* of the Spirit,
Which none see by but those that bear it:
A Light that falls down from on high,
For Spiritual Trades to couzen by:
An *Ignis Fatuus*, that bewitches,
And leads men into Pools and Ditches,
To make them *dip* themselves, and sound
For Christendom in Dirty Pond;
To dive like Wild-fowl for Salvation,
And fish to catch Regeneration.
This Light inspires, and playes upon
The nose of Saint, like Bag-pipe-drone,
And speaks through hollow empty soul,
As through a Trunk, or whisp'ring hole,
Such language as no mortal ear
But spiritual Eaves-droppers can hear.
So *Phœbus* or some friendly Muse
Into small Poets song infuse;
Which they at second-hand reherse
Through Reed or Bag-pipe, verse for verse.

Thus *Ralph* became infallible,
As three or four-legg'd Oracle,
The ancient Cup, or modern Chair;
Spoke truth point-blank, though unaware:

For

For mystick Learning, wondrous able
In Magick, *Talismans*, and *Cabal*,
Whose primitive tradition reaches
As far as *Adam's* first green breeches;
Deep-sighted in Intelligences,
Ideas, Atoms, Influences;
And much of *Terra incognita*,
Th' Intelligible world could say:
A deep occult Philosopher,
As learn'd as the *Wild Irish* are,
Or Sir *Agrippa*, for profound
And solid Lying much renown'd:
He *Ambrosophus*, and *Flood*,
And *Jacob Behmen* understood:
Knew many an Amulet and Charm,
That would do neither good nor harm:
In *Rosie-Crucian* Lore as learned,
As he that *Verè adeptus* earned.
He understood the speech of Birds
As well as they themselves do words;
Could tell what subtlest Parrots mean,
That speak and think contrary clean;
What *Member* 'tis of whom they talk
When they cry *Rope*, and *Walk, Knave, walk*.
He'd extract numbers out of matter,
And keep them in a Glass, like water,
Of luv'raigo pow'r to make men wise;
For drops in blers, thick-sighted eyes.

They'd

They'd make them see in darkest night,
Like Owls, though purblind in the light.
By help of these (as he profest)
He had *First Matter* seen undrest:
He took her naked all alone,
Before one Rag of *Form* was on.
The *Chaos* too he had descry'd,
And seen quite through, or else he ly'd:
Not that of Past-board which men shew
For Groats at *Fair of Bartholmew*;
But its great Grandsire, first o'th' name,
Whence that and *Reformation* came:
Both Cousin-germans, and right able
T' inveigle and draw in the Rabble.
But *Reformation* was, some say,
O'th' younger house to *Puppet-play*.
He could foretell whats'ever was
By consequence to come to passe.
As Death of Great men, Alterations,
Diseases, Battels, Inundations.
All this without th' eclipse of Sun,
Or dreadful Comet, he hath done,
By inward light, a way as good,
And easy to be understood.
But with more lucky hit than those
That use to make the Stars depose,
Like Knights o'th' Post, and falsely charge
Upon themselves what others forge:

As if they were consenting to
All Mischief in the World men do:
Or like the Dev'l, did tempt and sway 'em
To Rogueries, and then betray 'em.
They'l search a Planet's house, to know
Who broke and robb'd a house below:
Examine *Venus*, and the *Moon*,
Who stole a thimble or a spoon:
And though they nothing will confesse,
Yet by their very looks can guesse,
And tell what guilty Aspect bodes,
Who stole, and who receiv'd the goods.
They'l question *Mars*, and by his look
Detect who 'twas that nimm'd a Cloke:
Make *Mercury* confesse and peach
Those thieves which he himself did teach.
They'l find i'th' Physiognomies
O'th' Planets all mens destinies:
Like him that took the Doctor's Bill,
And swallow'd it in stead o'th' Pill.
Cast the Nativity o'th' Question,
And from Positions to be guest on,
As sure as if they knew the Moment
Of Native's birth, tell what will come on't.
They'l feel the Pulses of the Stars,
To find out Agues, Coughs, Catarrhs;
And tell what *Crisis* does divine
The Rot in Sheep, or Mange in Swine:

In men what gives or cures the Itch,
What makes them Cuckolds, poor or rich:
What gains or loſes, hangs or ſaves;
What makes men great, what fools or knaves;
But not what wiſe, for onely of thoſe
The Stars (they ſay) cannot diſpoſe,
No more then can the Aſtrologians.
There they ſay right, and like true *Trojans*.
This *Ralpho* knew, and therefore took
The other courſe, of which we ſpoke.

Thus was th' accompliſh'd Squire endu'd
With gifts and knowledge, perfous ſhrewd.
Never did truſty Squire with Knight,
Or Knight with Squire jump more right.
Their Arms and Equipage did fit,
As well as vertues, parts, and wit.
Their Valours too were of a Rate,
And out they ſally'd at the Gate.
Few miles on horſeback had they jogged,
But fortune unto them turn'd dogged.
For they a ſad Adventure met,
Of which anon we mean to treat:
But ere we venture to unfold
Atchievements ſo reſolv'd and bold,
We ſhould, as learned Poets uſe,
Invoke th' aſſiſtance of ſome *Muſe*;
However Criticks count it ſillier
Then Juglers talking to Familiar.

We think 'tis no great matter which:
They'r all alike: yet we shall pitch
On one that fits our purpose most,
Whom therefore thus we do accost.

Thou that with Ale, or vilet Liquors,
Didst inspire *Withers*, *Pryn*, and *Wickars*,
And force them, though it were in spight
Of nature and their stars, to write;
Who, as we find in sullen Writs,
And crosse-grain'd Works of modern wits,
With Vanity, Opinion, Want,
The wonder of the Ignorant,
The praises of the Author, penn'd
By himself, or wit-ensuring friend,
The Itch of Picture in the Front,
With Bays, and wicked Rhyme upon't,
All that is left o' th' forked Hill
To make men scribble without skill,
Canst make a Poet, spight of fate,
And teach all people to translate;
Though out of Languages in which
They understand no part of speech:
Assist me but this once, I'mplore,
And I shall trouble thee no more.

In Western Clime there is a Town
To those that dwell thereinwell known;

There-

Therefore there needs no more be ſed here,
VVe unto them refer our Reader:
For brevity is very good,
VVhen w'are, or are not underſtood.
To this Town People did repair
On dayes of Market or of Fair,
And to crack'd Fiddle and hoarſe Tabor
In merriment did drudge and labour:
But now a ſport more formidable
Had rak'd together Village rabble.
'Twas an old way of Recreating,
VVhich learned Butchers call *Bear-Baiting*:
A bold advent'rous exerciſe,
VVith ancient *Hero's* in high prize;
For Authors do affirm it came
From *Iſthmian* or *Nemean* game.
Others derive it from the *Bear*
That's fixt in Northern Hemiſphere,
And round about the Pole does make
A circle, like a Bear at ſtake,
That at the Chain's end wheels about,
And overturns the Rabble-rout.
For after ſolemn proclamation
In the Bear's name (as is the faſhion,
According to the Law of Arms,
To keep men from inglorious harms)
That none preſume to come ſo near
As forty foot of ſtake of Bear;

If any yet be ſo fool-hardy,
T' expoſe themſelves to vain jeopardy;
If they come wounded off and lame,
No honour's got by ſuch a maim.
Although the Bear gain much, b'ing bound
In honour to make good his ground,
When he's ingag'd, and take no notice,
If any preſſe upon him, who 'tis,
But let them know at their own coſt
That he intends to keep his poſt.
This to prevent, and other harms,
Which alwayes wait on feats of arms,
(For in the hurry of a Fray
'Tis hard to keep out of harm's way)
Thither the *Knight* his courſe did ſtear,
To keep the peace 'twixt *Dog* and *Bear*;
As he believ'd h' was bound to doe
In Conſcience and Commiſſion too.
And therefore thus beſpoke the Squire;

We that are wiſely mounted higher
Then Conſtables, in Curule wit,
When one Tribunal bench we ſit,
Like Speculators, ſhould foreſee,
From *Pharos* of Authority,
Portended Miſchiefs farther then
Low Proletarian Tithing-men.
And therefore being inform'd by bruit,
Thot *Dog* and *Bear* are to diſpute;

For ſo of late men fighting name,
Becauſe they often prove the ſame;
(For where the firſt does hap to be,
The laſt does *coincidere.*)
*Quantum in nobis*, have thought good,
To ſave th' expence of Chriſtian bloud,
And try if we by mediation
Of treaty and accommodation
Can end the Quarrel, and compoſe
The bloudy Duel without blows.
Are not our Liberties, our Lives,
The Laws, Religion, and our VVives,
Enough at once to lye at ſtake,
For *Cov'nant* and the *Cauſe*'s ſake;
But in that quarrel *Dogs* and *Bears*,
As well as we, muſt venture theirs?
This Fewd by *Jeſuits* invented,
By *evil counſell* is fomented.
There is a *Machiavillian* Plot,
(Though ev'ry Nare olfact it not)
A deep deſign in't, to divide
The well-affected that confide,
By ſetting brother againſt brother,
To claw and curry one another.
Have we not enemies *plus ſatis*,
That *Cane & angue pejus* hate us?
And ſhall we turn our fangs and claws
Upon our own ſelves, without cauſe?

That some occult design doth ly
In bloudy *Cynarctomachy*,
Is plain enough to him that knows
How Saints lead brothers by the nose,
I wish my self a Pseudo-prophet,
But sure some mischief will come of it:
Unless by providential wit
Or force we averruncate it.
For what design, what interest
Can Beast have to encounter Beast?
They fight for no espoused *Cause*,
Frail *Priviledge*, *Fundamental Laws*;
Nor for a *thorough Reformation*,
Ner *Covenant*, nor *Protestation*;
Nor for free *Liberty of Conscience*,
Nor Lords and Commons *Ordinances*;
Nor for the *Church*, nor for *Church-lands*,
To get them in their own no hands;
Nor *evil Counsellours* to bring
To Justice that seduce the King;
Nor for the worship of us men,
Though we have done as much for them.
Th' *Ægyptians* worshipp'd *Dogs*, and for
Their faith made internecine war.
Others ador'd a *Rat*, and some
For that Church suffer'd martyrdome.
The *Indians* fought for the truth
Of th' *Elephant*, and *Monkey's* tooth:

And

And many, to defend that faith,
Fought it out *mordicus* to death.
But no Beaſt ever was ſo ſlight,
For man, as for his God, to fight.
They have more wit, alas! and know
Themſelves and us better then ſo.
But we, we onely do infuſe
The Rage in them like *Boute-feus*.
'Tis our example that inſtills
In them th' infection of our ills.
For, as ſome late Philoſophers
Have well obſerv'd, Beaſts that converſe
With Man, take after him, as Hogs
Get Pigs all th' year, and Bitches Dogs.
Juſt ſo by our example Cattel
Learn to give one another Battel.
VVe read in *Nero*'s time, the Heathen,
When they deſtroy'd the *Chriſtian brethren*,
They ſow'd them in the skins of Bears,
And then ſet Dogs about their ears:
From whence, no doubt, th' invention came
Of this lewd, Antichriſtian Game.
To this, quoth *Ralpho*, Verily,
The point ſeems very plain to me.
It is an Antichriſtian Game,
Unlawful both in thing and name.
Firſt for the *name*, the word *Bear-baiting*
Is carnal, and of man's creating;

For certainly there's no such word
In all the *Scripture* on record.
Therefore unlawful and a sin.
And so is (secondly) the *thing*.
A vile *Assembly* 'tis, that can
No more be prov'd by Scripture than
*Provincial, Classick, National*;
Mere humane Creature-cobwebs all.
Thirdly, it is Idolatrous.
For when men run a-whoring thus
With their Inventions, whosoe're
The thing be, whether *Dog* or *Bear*,
It is Idolatrous and Pagan,
No less then worshipping of *Dagon*.

Quoth *Hudibras*, I smell a *Rat*;
*Ralpho* thou dost prevaricate.
For though the *Thesis* which thou lay'st
Be true *ad amussim* as thou say'st:
(For that *Bear-baiting* should appear
*Jure Divino* lawfuller
Then *Synods* are, thou dost deny,
*Totidem verbis* so do I)
Yet there's a falacy in this:
For if by sly *Homœosis*,
(*Tussis pro crepitu*, an art
Under a Cough to slur a Fart)
Thou wouldst Sophistically imply
Both are unlawful, I deny.

And

And I (quoth *Ralpho*) do not doubt
But *Bear-baiting* may be made out
In Goſpel-times, as lawful as is
*Provincial* or *Parochial Claſſis*:
And that both are ſo near of kin,
And like in all, as well as ſin,
That put them in a bag and ſhake 'em,
Your ſelf o'th' ſudden would miſtake 'em,
And not know which is which, unleſs
You meaſure by their wickedneſs:
For 'tis not hard t'imagine whether
O'th' two is worſt, though I name nether.

Quoth *Hudibras*, Thou offer'ſt much,
But art not able to keep touch.
*Mira de lente*, as 'tis i'th' Adage,
*Id eſt*, to make a Leek a Cabbage.
Thou wilt at beſt but *ſuck a Bull*,
Or *ſhear Swine, All Cry, and no Wooll*.
For what can *Synods* have at all
With *Bears* that's analogical?
Or what relation has Debating
Of Church-affairs, with *Bear-baiting*?
A juſt compariſon ſtill is,
Of things *ejuſdem generis*.
And then what *Genus* rightly doth
Compr'hend them *inclusivè* both?

If

If *Animal*, both of us may
As likely pass for Bears as they.
For we are Animals no less,
Although of different *Species*.
But, *Ralpho*, this is no fit place
Nor time to argue out the Case:
For now the Field is not far off,
Where we must give the world a proof
Of Deeds, not Words, and such as suit
Another manner of Dispute.
A Controversie that affords
Actions for Arguments, not Words:
Which we must manage at a rate
Of Prowess and Conduct adæquate
To what our place and fame doth promise,
And all the *Godly* expect from us.
Nor shall they be deceiv'd, unless
W'are slurr'd and outed by success:
Success, the mark no mortal wit,
Or surest hand, can always hit:
For whatsoe're we perpetrate,
We do but row, w'are steer'd by Fate,
Which in success oft disinherits,
For spurious causes, noblest merits.
Great actions are not always true sons
Of great and mighty Resolutions:
Nor do the bold'st attempts bring forth
Events still equal to their worth;

But ſometimes fail, and in their ſtead
Fortune and Cowardiſe ſucceed.
Yet we have no great cauſe to doubt,
Our actions ſtill have born us out.
Which though th'are known to be ſo ample,
We need not copy from example,
We're not the onely perſon durſt,
Attempt this Province, nor the firſt.
In Northern Clime a valorous Knight
Did whilome kill his Bear in fight,
And wound a Fidler: we have both
Of theſe the objects of our wroth,
And equal fame and glory from
Th'attempt or victory to come.
'Tis ſung, There is a valiant *Mamaluke*
In forrain Land, yclep'd ——
To whom we have been oft compar'd,
For perſon, parts, addreſs, and beard;
Both equally reputed ſtout,
And in the ſame Cauſe both have fought.
He oft in ſuch attempts as theſe
Came off with glory and ſucceſs.
Nor will we fail in th' execution
For want of equal reſolution.
Honour is, like a Widow, won
With brisk attempt, and putting on;
With entring manfully, and urging;
Not ſlow approaches, like a Virgin.

This

This ſaid, as yerſt the *Phrygian* Knight,
So ours with ruſty ſteel did ſmite
His *Trojan* horſe, and juſt as much
He mended pace upon the touch;
But from his empty ſtomach gron'd
Juſt as that hollow beaſt did ſound,
And angry anſwer'd from behind,
With brandiſh'd tail and blaſt of wind.
So have I ſeen with armed heel,
A Wight beſtride a *Common-weal*;
While ſtill the more he kick'd and ſpurr'd,
The leſs the ſullen Jade has ſtirr'd.

THE

## THE ARGUMENT OF The SECOND CANTO.

*The Catalogue and Character*
*Of th' Enemy's best men of War;*
*To whom the* Knight *does make a speech,*
*And they defie him: after which*
*He fights with* Talgol, *routs the* Bear,
*And takes the* Fidler *Prisoner:*
*Conveys him to enchanted castle,*
*There shuts him up in wooden* Bastile.

## *Canto* II.

THere was an ancient sage *Philosopher*,
That had read *Alexander Ross* over,
And swore the World, as he could prove,
Was made of *Fighting* and of *Love*:
Just so *Romances* are, for what else
Is in them all, but *Love* and *Battels*:
Q'th' first of these w'have no great matter
To treat of, but a world o'th' later:
In which to doe the Injur'd right
We mean, in what concerns just fight.

Certes,

Certes our Authors are to blame,
For to make ſome well-ſounding name
A pattern fit for modern Knights,
To copy out in frayes and fights,
(Like thoſe that a whole ſtreet do raze,
To build a Palace in the place.)
They never care how many others
They kill, without regard of mothers,
Or wives, or children, ſo they can
Make up ſome fierce, dead-doing man,
Compos'd of many ingredient valours,
Juſt like the manhood of nine Taylors.
So a wild *Tartar* when he ſpies
A man that's handſom, valiant, wiſe,
If he can kill him, thinks t'inherit
His wit, his beauty and his ſpirit:
As if juſt ſo much he enjoy'd
As in another is deſtroy'd.
For when a Giant's ſlain in fight,
And mow'd o'rethwart, or cleft downright,
It is a heavy caſe, no doubt,
A man ſhould have his brains beat out,
Becauſe he's tall, and has large bones,
As men kill Beavers for their ſtones.
But as for our part, we ſhall tell
The naked truth of what befell;
And as an equal friend to both
The Knight and Bear, but more to Troth,

With

VVith neither faction ſhall take part,
But give to each his due deſert:
And never coyn a formal lye on't
To make the *Knight* o'recome the *Giant*.
This b'ing profeſt, we hope's enough,
And now go on where we left off.

They rode, but Authors having not
Determin'd whether Pace or Trot,
(That is to ſay, whether *Tollutation*,
As they do tearm't, or *Succuſſation*)
We leave it, and go on, as now
Suppoſe they did, no matter how.
Yet ſome from ſubtle hints have got
Myſterious light, it was a trot.
But let that paſſe: they now begun
To ſpur their living Engines on.
For as whipp'd Tops and bandy'd Balls,
The Learned hold, are Animals:
So Horſes they affirm to be
Mere Engines, made by Geometry,
And were invented firſt from Engins,
As *Indian Britains* were from *Penguins*.
So let them be; and, as I was ſaying,
They their live Engines ply'd, not ſtaying
Until they reach'd the fatal champain,
Which th' Enemy did then incamp on,
The dire *Pharſalian* Plain, where battel
W'as to be wag'd 'twixt puiſſant Cattel,

And

And fierce Auxiliary men,
That came to aid their brethren:
Who now began to draw in field,
As Knight from ridge of Steed beheld.
For as our modern wits behold,
Mounted a Pick-back on the Old,
Much further off; much further he
From off his aged beast could see:
Yet not sufficient to descry
All postures of the enemy.
Wherefore he bids the Squire ride further,
T'observe their numbers, and their order;
That when their motions he had known,
He might know how to fit his own.
Meanwhile he stopp'd his willing Steed,
To fit himself for martial deed:
Both kinds of mettle he prepar'd,
Either to give blows, or to ward,
Courage and Steel, both of great force,
Prepar'd for better or for worse.
His Death-charg'd Pistols he did fit well,
Drawn out from life-preserving vittle.
These being prim'd, with force he labour'd
To free Sword from retentive Scabbard:
And after many a painful pluck,
From rusty Durance he bail'd Tuck.
Then shook himself, to see that Prowesse
In Scabbard of his Arms sate loose;

And rais'd upon his desperate foot
On stirrup side he gaz'd about,
Portending bloud, like blazing star,
The Beacon of approaching war.
*Ralpho* rode on with no lesse speed,
Then *Hugo* in the forrest did;
But with a great deal more return'd,
For now the Foe he had discern'd,
Rang'd, as to him they did appear,
With *Van, main Battel, Wings*, and *Rear*.

In th' head of all this warlike Rabble
*Crowdero* march'd, expert and able:
Instead of Trumpet and of Drum,
That makes the warrier's stomach come,
Whose noise whets valour sharp, like Beer
By thunder turn'd to Vinegar,
(For if a Trumpet sound or Drum beat,
Who has not a month's mind to combat?)
A squeaking Engine he apply'd
Unto his neck, on North-east side,
Just where the Hangman does dispose
To special friends the Knot of Noose:
For 'tis *great grace* when *Statesmen* straight
Dispatch a friend, let others wait.
His warped *Ear* hung o're the strings,
Which was but *Sowce* to *Chitterlings*:
For Guts, some write, ere they are sodden,
Are fit for Musick, or for Pudden:

From

From whence men borrow ev'ry kind
Of Minſtrelſey, by ſtring or wind.
His grizly *Beard* was long and thick,
With which he ſtrung his Fiddle-ſtick:
For he to Horſe-tail ſcorn'd to owe,
For what on his own chin did grow.
*Chiron*, the four-leg'd Bard, had both
A beard and tail of his own growth;
And yet by Authors 'tis averr'd,
He made uſe onely of his beard.
In *Staffordſhire*, where vertuous worth
Does raiſe the Minſtrelſey, not birth;
VVhere Bulls do chuſe the boldeſt King
And Ruler, o're the men of ſtring;
(As once in *Perſia*, 'tis ſaid, (neigh'd)
Kings were proclaim'd by a horſe that
He bravely vent'ring at a Crown,
By chance of war was beaten down,
And wounded ſore: his *Leg* then broke,
Had got a Deputy of Oke:
For when a ſhin in fight is cropt,
The Knee with one of timber's propt;
Eſteem'd more honourable then the other,
And takes place, though they ounger brother.

Next follow'd *Orſin*, famous for
Wiſe conduct and ſucceſs in war:
A skilful Leader, ſtout, ſevere,
Now Marſhal to the Champion Bear.

With

VVith Truncheon tipp'd with Iron-head
The VVarrior to the lists he led;
With solemn march and stately pace,
But far more grave and solemn face:
Grave as the Emperour of *Pegu*,
Or *Spanish* Potentate *Don Diego*.
This Leader was of knowledge great,
Either for Charge or for Retreat.
He knew when to fall on pell-mell,
To fall back and retreat as well.
So lawyers, lest the *Bear* defendant,
And plaintiff *Dog*, should make an end on't,
Do stave and tail with *Writs of Error*,
*Reverse of Iudgement*, and *Demurrer*,
To let them breath a while, and then
Cry whoop, and set them on agen.
As *Romulus* a Wolf did rear,
So he was dry-nurs'd by a Bear,
That fed him with the purchas'd prey
Of many a fierce and bloudy fray;
Bred up, where Discipline most rare is,
In Military *Garden-Paris*,
For Souldiers heretofore did grow
In Gardens, just as Weeds do now;
Until some splay-foot Politicians
I' *Apollo* offer'd up Petitions,
For licensing a new invention
Th'had found out, of an antique engine

To

To root out all the Weeds that grow
In Publick Garden at a blow,
And leave th' Herbs ſtanding. Quoth Sir *Sa.*
My friends, that is not to be done.
Not done? quoth Stateſmen; yes, an't pleaſe
When 'tis once known you'l ſay 'tis eaſy.
Why then let's know it, quoth *Apollo.*
We'l beat a Drum, and they'l all follow.
A Drum (quoth *Phœbus*) troth that's true,
A pretty invention, quaint and new.
But though of Voice and Inſtrument
We are th' undoubted Preſident;
We ſuch loud Muſick do not profeſſe,
The Devil's Maſter of that office,
Where it muſt paſſe, if't be a Drum,
He'l ſign it with *Cler. Parl. Dom. Com.*
To him apply your ſelves, and he
Will ſoon diſpatch you for his fee.
They did ſo, but it prov'd ſo ill,
Th' had better have let them grow the
But to reſume what we diſcourſing
Were on before, that is, ſtout *Orſin:*
That which ſo oft by ſundry writers
Has been apply'd t'almoſt all fighters,
More juſtly may b'aſcrib'd to this
Then any other Warrior (*viz.*)
None ever acted both parts bolder,
Both of a Chieftain and a Souldier.

He was of great deſcent and high,
For Splendor and Antiquity,
And from Celeſtial origine
Deriv'd himſelf in a right line.
Not as the Ancient *Hero's* did,
Who, that their baſe births might be hid,
(Knowing they were of doubtful gender,
And that they came in at a Windore)
Made *Jupiter* himſelf and others
O'th' Gods Gallants to their own mothers,
To get on them a Race of Champions,
Of which old *Homer* firſt made *Lampoons*;
*Arctophelax* in Northern Sphere
Was his undoubted Anceſtor:
From him his Great Fore-fathers came,
And in all Ages bore his name.
Learned he was in Medc'nal Lore,
For by his ſi de a Pouch he wore
Replete with ſtrange Hermetick Powder,
That Wounds nine miles point-blank would ſolder,
By skilful *Chymiſt* with great coſt
Extracted from a rotten Poſt;
But of a heav'nlier influence
Then that which Mountebanks diſpenſe;
Though by *Promethean* fier made,
As they do quack that drive that trade.
For as when Slovens do c miſſe
At others doors by Stool o'r Piſſe,

The Learned write, a red-hot Spit,
B'ing prudently apply'd to it,
Will convey miſchief from the Dung
Unto the Breech that did the wrong:
So this did healing, and as ſure
As that did miſchief, this would cure.

Thus vertuous *Orſin* was endu'd,
With Learning, Conduct, Fortitude,
Incomparable: and as the Prince
Of Poets, *Homer*, ſung long ſince,
A Skilful Leech is better far
Then half a hundred men of War;
So he appear'd, and by his skill,
No leſſe then Dint of Sword, could kill.

The Gallant *Bruin* marcht next him,
With Viſage formidably grim,
And rugged as a *Saracen*,
Or *Turk* of *Mahomet's* own kin;
Clad in a Mantle *della Guer*,
Of rough impenetrable Fur;
And in his Noſe, like *Indian* King,
He wore for ornament a Ring;
About his Neck a three-fold Gorget,
As tough as trebled leathern Target;
*Armed*, as Heraulds cant, and *lanyed*,
Or, as the Vulgar ſay, *ſharp-fanged*.

For

For as the Teeth in Beasts of Prey
Are Swords, with which they fight in (Fray;
So Swords in men of VVar are teeth,
VVhich they do eat their Victle with.
He was by birth, some Authors write,
A *Russian*, some a *Muscovite*,
And 'mong the *Cossacks* had been bred,
Of whom we in *Diurnals* read,
That serve to fill up Pages here,
As with their Bodyes Ditches there.
*Scrimansky* was his Cousin-german,
VVith whom he serv'd, and fed on Vermin:
And when these fail'd he'd suck his claws,
And quarter himself upon his paws.
And though his Country-men, the *Huns*,
Did stew their meat between their Bums
And th' Horses backs o're which they (straddle,
And every man eat up his Saddle:
He was not half so nice as they,
But eat it raw, when't came in's way.
He had trac'd Countreys far and near,
More then *Le Blanc* the Traveller;
Who writes, He Spous'd in *India*
Of noble house a Lady gay,
And got on her a Race of Worthies
As stout as any upon earth is.

Full many a fight for him between
*Talgol* and *Orsin* oft had been;
Each striving to deserve the Crown
Of a say'd Citizen: the one
To guard his Bear, the other fought
To aid his Dog; both made more stout
By sev'ral spurs of neighbourhood,
*Church-fellow-membership*, and bloud:
But *Talgol*, mortal foe to Cows,
Never got ought of him but blows;
Blows hard and heavy, such as he
Had lent, repay'd with Usury.

Yet *Talgol* was of courage stout,
And vanquish'd oftner than he fought:
Inur'd to labour, sweat, and toyl,
And, like a Champion, shone with Oyl.
Right many a widow his keen blade,
And many Fatherless, had made.
He many a Bore and huge *Dun Cow*
Did, like another *Guy*, o'rethrow.
But *Guy* with him in fight compar'd,
Had like the Bore or Dun Cow far'd.
With greater troops of Sheep he had fought
Then *Ajax*, or bold *Don Quixot*:
And many a Serpent of fell kind,
With wings before and stings behind,
Subdu'd; as Poets say, long agon
Bold *Sir George Saint George* did the *Dragon*.

No

No Engine, nor Device Polemick,
Diſeaſe, nor Doctor Epidemick,
Though ſtor'd with Deletery Med'cines,
(Which whoſoever took is dead ſince)
E're ſent ſo vaſt a Colony
To both the under worlds as he.
For he was of that noble trade
That *Demi-Gods* and *Heroes* made,
Slaughter, and knocking on the head;
The trade to which they all were bred;
And is, like others, glorious when
'Tis great and large, but baſe if mean.
The former rides in triumph for it;
The later in a two-wheel'd Chariot,
For daring to profane a thing
So ſacred, with vile bungling.

Next theſe the brave *Magnano* came,
*Magnano* great in Martial fame,
Yet when with *Orſin* he wag'd fight,
'Tis ſung he got but little by't.
Yet he was fierce as Forreſt boar,
Whoſe ſpoils upon his back he wore,
As thick as *Ajax* ſev'n-fold ſhield,
Which o're his brazen arms he held.
But Braſſe was feeble to reſiſt
The fury of his armed fiſt,
Nor could the hardeſt Iron hold out
Againſt his blows, but they would through't.

In *Magick* he was deeply read,
As he that made the *Brazen-head*;
Profoundly skill'd in the black Art,
As *Engliſh Merlin* for his heart;
But far more skilful in the Spheres
Then he was at the Sieve and Shears.
He could transform himſelf in Colour
As like the Devil as a Collier;
As like as Hypocrites in ſhew
Are to true Saints, or Crow to Crow.

Of warlike Engines he was Author,
Devis'd for quick diſpatch of ſlaughter;
The *Cannon*, *Blunderbuſs*, and *Saker*,
He was th' inventer of and maker:
The *Trumpet* and the *Kettle-drum*
Did both from his Invention come.
He was the firſt that e're did teach
To make, and how to ſtop a breach.
A Lance he bore with Iron-pike,
Th' one half would thruſt, the other ſtrike:
And when their forces he had joyn'd,
He ſcorn'd to turn his Parts behind.

He *Trulla* lov'd, *Trulla* more bright
Then burniſh'd Armour of her Knight:
A bold *Virago*, ſtout and tall
As *Joan* of *France*, or *Engliſh Mall*.

Through

Through Perils both of Wind and Limb,
Through thick and thin ſhe follow'd him,
In every Adventure h' undertook,
And never him or it forſook.
At Breach of Wall, or Hedge-ſurprize,
She ſhar'd in th' hazard and the prize:
At beating quarters up, or forrage,
Behav'd her ſelf with matchleſſe courage;
And laid about in fight more buſily,
Then th' *Amazonian* Dame, *Pen-Theſile*.

And though ſome Criticks here cry ſhame,
And ſay our Authors are to blame,
That (ſpight of all Philoſophers,
VVho hold no females ſtout, but Bears)
Make feeble Ladies, in their VVorks,
To fight with *Termagants* and *Turks*;
To lay their native Arms aſide,
Their modeſty, and ride a-ſtride;
To run a-tilt at men, and wield
Their naked tools in open field;
As ſtout *Armida*, bold *Thaleſtris*,
And ſhe that would have been the Miſtreſſe
Of *Gundibert*, but he had grace,
And rather took a Country Laſs:
They ſay 'tis falſe, without all ſenſe,
But of pernicious conſequence
To Government, which they ſuppoſe
Can never be upheld in proſe:

Strip Nature naked to the skin,
You'l find about her no such thing.
It may be so, yet what we tell
Of *Trulla*, that's improbable,
Shall be depos'd by those have seen't,
Or, what's as good, produc'd in print:
And if they will not take our word,
We'l prove it true upon record.

The upright *Cerdon* next advanc't,
Of all his Race the Valiant'st;
*Cerdon* the Great, renown'd in Song,
Like *Herc'les* for repair of wrong:
He rais'd the low, and fortify'd
The weak against the strongest side.
Ill has he read, that never hit,
On him in Muses deathlesse writ.
He had a weapon keen and fierce, (pierce,
That through a Bull-hide-shield would
And cut it in a thousand pieces,
Though tougher then the Knight of *Greece*
With whom his black-thum'd ancestor (his;
VVas comrade in the ten years war:
For when the restlesse *Greeks* sate down
So many years before *Troy* Town,
And were renown'd, as *Homer* writes,
For *well-sol'd Boots*, no lesse then Fights;
They ow'd that Glory onely to
His Ancestors that made them so.

Fast

Faſt friend he was to *Reformation*,
Untill 'twas worn quite out of faſhion.
Next Rectifier of Wry *Law*,
And would make three, to cure one flaw.
Learned he was, and could take note,
Tranſcribe, collect, tranſlate and quote.
But *Preaching* was his chiefeſt Talent,
Or Argument, in which b'ing valiant,
He us'd to lay about and ſtickle,
Like Ram or Bull, at *Conventicle*:
For Diſputants, like *Rams* and *Bulls*,
Do fight with *Arms* that ſpring from *Skulls*.

Laſt *Colon* came, bold man of war,
Deſtin'd to blows by fatal Star;
Right expert in Command of horſe,
But Cruel, and without remorſe.
That which of *Centaure* long ago
Was ſaid, and has been wreſted to
Some other Knights, was true of this,
*He* and his *Horſe* were of a piece.
One Spirit did inform them both,
The ſelf-ſame Vigor, Fury Wroth:
Yet he was much the rougher part,
And alwayes had a harder heart;
Although his horſe had been of thoſe
That fed on Man's fleſh, as fame goes.
Strange food for Horſe! and yet, alas
It may be true, for *fleſh is graſs*.

Sturdy he was, and no leſſe able
Then *Hercules* to cleanſe a Stable;
As great a Drover, and as great
A Critick too in hog or neat.
He ripp'd the womb up of his mother,
Dame *Tellus*, 'cauſe ſhe wanted fother
And Provender wherewith to feed
Himſelf and his leſs-cruel Steed.
It was a queſtion whether He
Or's Horſe were of a Family
More Worſhipful: till Antiquaries,
(After th' had almoſt por'd out their eys,)
Did very learnedly decide
The bus'neſs on the Horſe's ſide,
And prov'd not onely Horſe, but Cows,
Nay Pigs, were of the elder houſe:
For Beaſts, when man was but a piece
Of earth himſelf, did th' earth poſſeſſe.

Theſe Worthies were the Chief that led
The Combatants, each in the head
Of his Command, with Arms and Rage,
Ready and longing to engage.
The numerous Rabble was drawn out
Of ſeveral Countries round about;
From Villages remote, and Shires,
Of Eaſt and Weſtern Hemiſpheres:
From forain Pariſhes and Regions,
Of different manners, ſpeech, Religions,

Came

Came men and Mastives; some to fight
For fame and honour, some for sight.
And now the field of Death, the Lists,
Were entred by Antagonists,
And bloud was ready to be broached;
When *Hudibras* in haste approached,
With Squire and weapons to attack them:
But first thus from his *Horse* bespake them.

What Rage, O Citizens, what fury
Doth you to these dire actions hurry?
What *Oestrum*, what phrenetick mood,
Makes you thus lavish of your bloud,
While the proud *Vies* your Trophies boast,
And unreveng'd walks —— ghosts?
What Towns, what Garrisons might you
With hazard of this bloud subdue,
Which now y'are bent to throw away
In vain, untriumphable fray?
Shall *Saints* in Civil bloudshed wallow
Of *Saints*, and let the *Cause* lye fallow?
The *Cause*, for which we fought and swore
So boldly, shall we now give o're?
Then because Quarrels still are seen
With Oaths and Swearing to begin;
The *Solemn League and Covenant*
Will seem a mere *God-dam-me* Rant;
And we that took it, and have fought,
As lewd as Drunkards that fall out,

For

For as we make War *for the King*
*Againſt himſelf*, the ſelf-ſame thing
Some will not ſtick to ſwear we doe
For *God*, and for *Religion* too.
For if *Bear-baiting* we allow,
What no ble can *Reformation* doe?
The blood and treaſure that's laid out,
Is thrown away, and goes for nought,
Are theſe the fruits o'th' *Proteſtation*,
The Prototype of *Reformation*,
Which all the *Saints* and ſome ſince *Martyrs*,
Wore in their hats, like Wedding-garters,
When 'twas reſolv'd by either Houſe
*Six Members* quarrel to eſpouſe?
Did they for this draw down the Rabble,
With Zeal and Noiſes formidable;
And make all *Cries* about the Town
Joyn throats to cry the *Biſhops* down?
Who having round begirt the Palace,
(As once a month they do the *Gallows*)
As Members gave the ſign about,
Set up their throats with hideous ſhout.
When *Tinkers* bawl'd aloud, to ſettle
*Church-Diſcipline*, for patching *Kettle*.
No *Sow-gelder* did blow his horn
To geld a Cat, but cry'd *Reform*.
The *Oyſter-women* lock'd their fiſh up,
And trudg'd away, to cry *No Biſhop*.

The

The *Mouſetrap-men* laid *Save-alls* by,
And 'gainſt *Ev'l Counſellors* did cry.
*Botchers* left old cloaths in the lurch,
And fell to turn and patch the *Church*.
Some cry'd the *Covenant* inſtead
Of *Pudding-pies* and *Ginger-bread*:
And ſome for *Broom, old Boots and Shoes*,
Cry'd out to *purge the Common's Houſe*:
Inſtead of *Kitchin-ſtuff*, ſome cry
A *Goſpel-preaching-Miniſtry*;
And ſome for *Old Suits, Coats*, or *Cloak*,
No *Surplices*, nor *Service-book*.
A ſtrange harmonious inclination
Of all degrees to *Reformation*.
And is this all? is this the end
To which theſe *carr'ings on* did tend?
Hath *Publick Faith* like a young heire
For this tak'n up all ſorts of Ware,
And run in't ev'ry Tradeſman's book,
Till both turn'd Bankrupts, and are broke?
Did *Saints* for this bring in their *Plate*,
And crowd as if they came too late? (on't,
For when they thought the *Cauſe* had need
Happy was he that could be rid on't.
Did they coyn *Piſs-pots, Bouls* and *Flaggons*,
Int' Officers of Horſe and Dragoons;
And into Pikes and Musketiers
Stamp *Beakers, Cups* and *Porringers*?

A *Thimble*, *Bodkin*, and a *Spoon*,
Did ſtart up living men, as ſoon
As in the furnace they were thrown,
Juſt like the *Dragons teeth* b'ing ſown.
Then was the *Cauſe* all Gold and Plate,
The *Brethrens* off-rings, conſecrate
Like th' *Hebrew-calf*, and down before it
The *Saints* fell proſtrate, to adore it.
So ſay, the *Wicked*——and will you
Make that Sarcaſmous Scandal true,
By running after Dogs and Bears,
Beaſts more unclean then Calves or Steers?
Have *pow'rful Preachers* ply'd their tongues,
And *laid* themſelves *out* and their lungs;
Us'd all means, both direct and ſiniſter,
I'th' power of *Goſpel-preaching-Miniſter*?
Have they invented *Tones*, to win
The *Women*, and make them draw in
The men, as *Indians* with the female
Tame Elephant inveigle the male?
Have they told *Prov'dence* what it muſt doe,
Whom to avoid, and whom to truſt to?
Diſcover'd th' *Enemy's* deſign,
And which way beſt to countermine;
Preſcrib'd what wayes it hath to work,
Or it will ne're advance the *Kirk*;
Told it the *News* o'th' laſt Expreſs,
And after good or bad ſucceſs

Made

Made Prayers, not so like *Petitions*,
As *Overtures* and *Propositions*,
(Such as the *Army* did present
To their Creator th' *Parliament*)
In which they freely will confess,
They will not, cannot *acquiesce*,
Unless the *Work* be carry'd on
In the same way they have begun,
By setting Church and Common-weal
All on a flame bright as their zeal,
On which the Saints were all a-gog,
And all this for a *Bear* and *Dog*?

The Parliament drew up *Petitions*,
To't self, and sent them, like Commissions,
To *Well-affected* Persons down,
In ev'ry City and great Town;
With pow'r to levy horse and men,
Onely to bring them back agen:
For this did many, many a mile,
Ride manfully in Rank and file,
With *Papers* in their hats, that show'd
As if they to the *Pillory* rode.
Have all these courses, these efforts,
Been try'd by people of all sorts,
*Velis & Remis, omnibus Nervis*,
And all t'advance the *Cause's* service?
And shall all now be thrown away
In petulant intestine fray?

Shall

Shall we that in the *Cov'nant* ſwore,
Each man of us to run before
Another ſtill in *Reformation*,
Give Dogs and Bears a Diſpenſation?
How will *diſſenting Brethren* reliſh it?
What will *Malignants* ſay? *Videlicet*,
That each man ſwore to doe his beſt,
To damn and perjure all the reſt;
And bid *the Devil take the hindmoſt*,
VVhich at this Race is like to win moſt.
They'l ſay our buſ'neſſe to *reform*
The Church and State is but a worm;
For to tranſcribe a Church inviſible,
As we have ſworn to doe, it is *a bull*:
For when we ſwore to doe it after
*The beſt Reformed Churches* that are,
VVhat did we elſe but make a vow
To doe we know not what, nor how?
For no three of us will agree
VVhere, or what Churches theſe ſhould be.
And is indeed the ſelf-ſame caſe
VVith theirs that ſwore *Et cæteras*;
Or the *French League*, in which men vow'd
To fight to the laſt drop of bloud.
Theſe ſlanders will be thrown upon
The *Cauſe* and *Work* we carry on,
If we permit men to run headlong
T'exorbitancies fit for Bedlam,

Rather

Rather then *Gaſpel*-walking times,
When ſleighteſt Sins are greateſt Crimes,
But we the matter ſo ſhall handle,
As to remove that odious ſcandal.
*In name of King and Parliament*,
I charge ye all, no more foment
This feud, but keep the peace between
Your Brethren and your Country-men;
And to thoſe places ſtraight repair
VVhere your reſpective dwellings are.
But to that purpoſe firſt ſurrender
The *Fidler*, as the prime offender,
Th' Incendiary vile, that is chief
Author and Enginier of miſchiefe;
That makes diviſion between friends,
For profane and maligoant ends.
He and that Engine of vile noiſe;
On which illegally he playes,
Shall (*dictum factum*) both be *brought*
*To condigne puniſhment*, as th'ought.
This muſt be done, and I would fain ſee
Mortal ſo ſturdy as to gain-ſay:
For then I'le take another courſe,
And ſoon *Reduce* you all by force.
This ſaid, he clapt his hand on Sword,
To ſhew he meant to keep his word.

But *Talgol*, who had long ſuppreſt
Enflamed wrath in glowing breaſt,

VVhich

Which now began to rage and burn as
Implacably as flame in furnace,
Thus answer'd him. Thou Vermin wretched!
As e're in measel'd Pork was hatched;
Thou Tail of Worship, that dost grow
On Rump of Justice, as of Cow;
How dar'st thou with that sullen luggage
O'thy self, old Urn, and other baggage,
With which thy Steed of bones and leather
Is lam'd and tir'd in halting hither;
How durst th', I say, adventure thus,
T'oppose thy Lumber against us?
Could thine Impertinence find out
No work t'employ it self about,
Where thou secure from wooden blow
Thy busie vanity might'st show?
VVas no dispute afoot between
The *Caterwauling Bretheren*?
No subtle Question rais'd among
Those *out-o'-their-wits* and those i'th' wrong?
No prize between those Combatants
O'th' times, the Land and VVater-*Saints*?
VVhere thou might'st *stickle without hazard*
Of outrage to thy hide and mazzard?
And not for want of busi'nesse come
To us to be thus troublesome?
To interrupt our better sort
Of Disputants, and spoil our sport?

VVas

VVas there no Felony, no Bawd,
Cut-purſe, nor Burglary abroad?
No *Stollen-Pig*, nor *Plunder'd Gooſe*,
To tie thee up from breaking looſe?
No Ale unlicenc'd, broken hedge,
For which thou Statute might'ſt alledge,
To keep thee buſie from foul evil,
And ſhame due to thee from the Devil?
Did no Committee ſit, where he
Might cut out Journey-work for thee;
And ſet th' a task with ſubornation,
To ſtitch up *Sale* and *Sequeſtration*;
To *cheat* with *Holineſs* and *Zeal*
All Parties, and the Common-weal?
Much better had it been for thee,
H'had kept thee where th' art us'd to be;
Or ſent th' on bus'neſs any whither,
So he had never brought thee hither.
But if th' haſt brain enough in skull
To keep it ſelf in lodging whole,
And not provoke the rage of Stones
And Cudgels to thy Hide and Bones;
Tremble, and vaniſh while thou may'ſt,
Which I'le not promiſe if thou ſtay'ſt.
At this the *Knight* grew high in wroth,
And *lifting* hands and *eyes up* both,
Three times he ſmote on ſtomach ſtout,(out.
From whence at length theſe words broke

Was

Was I for this entitled *Sir*,
And girt with truſty ſword and ſpur,
For fame and honour to wage battel
Thus to be brav'd by foe to Cattel?
Not all that Pride that makes thee ſwell
As big as thou doſt blown-up Veal;
Nor all thy tricks and ſlights to cheat,
And ſell thy Carrion for good meat;
Not all thy Magick to repair
Decay'd old age in tough lean ware,
Turn Death of Nature to thy work,
And ſtop the Gangrene in ſtale Pork;
Not all that force that makes thee proud,
Becauſe by Bullock ne're withſtood;
Though arm'd with all thy clevers, knives,
And axes made to hew down lives;
Shall ſave or help thee to evade
The hand of Juſtice, or this blade
Which I her Sword-bearer do carry,
For civil deed and military.
Nor ſhall theſe words of Venom baſe,
Which thou haſt from their native place,
Thy ſtomach, pump'd to fling on me,
Go unreveng'd, though I am free. ('em,
Thou down the ſame throat ſhall devour
Like tainted Beef, and pay dear for 'em.
Nor ſhall it e're be ſaid, that wight
With Gantlet blew and Baſes white,

And

And round blunt Dudgeon by his ſide,
So great a man at Arms defy'd
With words far bitterer than wormwood,
That would in *Job* or *Grizel* ſtir mood. (heal;
Dogs with their tongues their wounds do
But men with hands, as thou ſhalt feel.
This ſaid, with haſty rage he ſnatch'd
His Gun-ſhot, that in holſters watch'd;
And bending Cock, he level'd full
Againſt th' outſide of *Talgol*'s Skull;
Vowing that he ſhould ne're ſtir further,
Nor henceforth Cow or Bullock murther.
But *Pallas* came in ſhape of Ruſt,
And 'twixt the Spring and Hammer thruſt
Her *Gorgon*-ſhield, which made the Cock
Stand ſtiff as 'twere transform'd to ſtock.
Meanwhile fierce *Talgol* gath'ring might,
With rugged Truncheon ſmote at *Knight*.
But he with Petronel up-heav'd,
Inſtead of ſhield, the blow receiv'd.
The Gun recoyl'd, as well it might,
Not us'd to ſuch a kind of fight,
And ſhrunk from its great Maſter's gripe,
Knock'd down and ſtunn'd with mortal ſtripe.
Then *Hudibras* with furious haſte
Drew out his ſword; yet not ſo faſt
But *Talgol* firſt with hardy thwack
Twice bruis'd his head, and twice his back.

But

But when his rugged Sword was out,
With ſtomach huge he laid about,
Imprinting many a wound upon
His mortal foe the Truncheon.
The truſty Cudgel did oppoſe
It ſelf againſt dead-doing blows,
To guard its Leader from fell bane,
And then reveng'd it ſelf again.
And though the ſword (ſome underſtood)
In force had much the odds of Wood;
'Twas nothing ſo, both ſides were ballanc't
So equal, none knew which was valliant'ſt.
For Wood with Honour b'ing engag'd,
Is ſo implacably enrag'd,
Though Iron hew and mangle ſore,
Wood wounds and bruiſes honour more.
And now both *Knight*'s were out of breath,
Tir'd in the hot purſuit of death;
While all the reſt amaz'd ſtood ſtill,
Expect.ng which ſhould take, or kill.
This *Hudibras* obſerv'd, and fretting
Conqueſt ſhould be ſo long a getting,
He drew up all his force into
One Body, and that into one Blow.
But *Talgol* wiſely avoided it
By cunning ſleight; for had it hit,
The Upper part of him the Blow
Had ſlit, as ſure as that below.

But now fierce *Colon* 'gan draw on,
To aid the diſtreſt Champion.
Him *Ralph* encountred, and ſtraight grew
A diſmal Combat 'twixt them two:
Th' one arm'd with Metal, th' other Wood;
This fit for bruiſe, and that for bloud.
With many a ſtiff thwack, many a bang,
Hard Crab-tree and old Iron rang;
While none that ſaw them could divine
To which ſide Conqueſt would encline:
Untill *Magnano*, who did envy
That two ſhould with ſo many men vye,
By ſubtle ſtratagem of brain
Perform'd what force could ne're attain.
For he, by foul hap having found
Where Thiſtles grew on barren ground,
He clapp'd them underneath the Tail
Of Steed, with pricks as ſharp as nail.
The angry Beaſt did ſtraight reſent
And feel regret on Fundament,
Begun to kick, and fling, and wince,
As if h' had been beſide his ſenſe,
Striving to diſengage from Thiſtle,
That gall'd him ſorely under his tail.
Inſtead of which he threw the pack
Of *Squire* and baggage from his back;
And blundring ſtill, with ſmarting rump,
He gave the *Knight*'s Steed ſuch a thump,

As

As made him reel. The *Knight* did stoop,
And sate on further side aslope.
This *Talgol* viewing, who had now
By sleight escap'd the fatal blow,
He rally'd, and again fell to't;
For catching foe by hearer foot,
He lifted with such might and strength,
As would have hurl'd him thrice his length,
And dash'd his brains (if any) out.
But *Mars*, that still protects the stout,
In Pudding-time came to his aid,
And under him the *Bear* convey'd;
The *Bear*, upon whose soft fur-gown
The *Knight* with all his weight fell down.
The friendly Rug preserv'd the ground,
And headlong *Knight* from bruise or wound:
Like feather-bed betwixt a wall,
And heavy brunt of Cannon-ball.
As *Sancho* on a Blanket fell,
And had no hurt; ours far'd as well
In body, though his mighty spirit,
B'ing heavy, did not so well bear it.
The *Bear* was in a greater fright,
Beat down and worsted by the *Knight*,
He roar'd and rag'd and flung about,
To shake off bondage from his snout.
His wrath enflam'd boil'd o're, and from
His Jaws of death he threw the fome.

Fury

Fury in ſtranger poſtures threw him,
And more, then ever Herauld drew him.
He tore the Earth, which he had ſav'd
From ſquelch of *Knight*, & ſtorm'd, & rav'd;
And vext the more, becauſe the harms
He felt were 'gainſt the *Law of Arms*:
For Men he alwayes took to be
His friends, and Dogs the enemy:
Who never ſo much hurt had done him,
As his own ſide did falling on him.
It griev'd him to the guts, that they
For whom h'had fought ſo many a fray,
And ſerv'd with loſſe of bloud ſo long,
Should offer ſuch inhumane wrong;
Wrong of unſouldier-like condition:
For which he flung down his Commiſſion,
And laid about him, till his Noſe
From thrall of Ring and Cord broke looſe.
Soon as he felt himſelf enlarg'd,
Through thickeſt of his foes he charg'd,
And made way through th' amazed crew.
Some he o'reran, and ſome o'rethrew,
But took none; for by haſty flight
He ſtrove t'eſcape purſuit of *Knight*,
From whom he fled with as much haſte
And dread as he the Rabble chac'd.
In haſte he fled, and ſo did they,
Each and his fear a ſev'ral way.

*Crowdero*

*Crowdero* onely kept the field,
Not ſtirring from the place he held,
Though beaten down and wounded ſore
I'th' Fiddle, and a Leg that bore
One ſide of him, not that of bone,
But, much its betters, th' wooden one.
He ſpying *Hudibras* lye ſtrow'd
Upon the ground, like log of wood,
With fright of fall, ſuppoſed wound,
And loſſe of Urine, caſt in ſownd,
In haſte he ſnatch'd the wooden limb
That hurt in th' ankle lay by him,
And liſting it for ſudden fight,
Straight drew it up to fall on *Knight*.
For getting up on ſtump and huckle,
He with the foe began to buckle,
Vowing to be reveng'd for breach
Of Crowd and Skin upon the wretch,
Sole author of all detriment
He and his Fiddle underwent.
But *Ralpho* (who had now begun
T'adventure reſurrection
From heavy ſquelch, and had got up
Upon his legs with ſprained Crup)
Looking about, beheld pernicion
Approaching *Knight* from fell Muſician.
He ſnatch'd his Whiniard up, that fled
When he was fallingoff his Steed,

(As

(As Rats do from a falling houſe)
To hide it ſelf from rage of blows;
And wing'd with ſpeed and fury, flew
To reſcue *Knight* from black and blew.
VVhich e're he could atchieve, his Sconce
The Shin encounter'd twice and once;
And now 'twas rais'd, to ſmite agen,
When *Ralpho* thruſt himſelf between.
He took the blow on ſide and arm,
To ſhield the *Knight* enttaunc'd from harm;
And joining wrath with force, beſtow'd
On th' wooden member ſuch a load,
That down it fell, and with it bore
*Crowdero*, whom it propp'd before.
To him the *Squire* right nimbly run,
And ſetting conquering foot upon
His trunk, thus ſpoke: What *deſp'rate Frenzie*
Made thee (thou whelp of Sin) to fancy
Thy ſelf and all that Coward Rabble
T'encounter us in battel able?
How durſt th', I ſay, oppoſe thy Curſhip
'Gainſt Arms, Authority and Worſhip?
And *Hudibras*, or me provoke,
Though all thy Limbs were heart of Oke,
And th' other half of thee as good
To bear out blows as that of Wood?
Could not the whipping-poſt prevail
VVith all its rhet'rick, nor the Gaol,

To keep from flaying ſcourge thy skin,
And ankle free from Iron gin?
Which now thou ſhalt—but firſt our care
Muſt ſee how *Hudibras* doth fare.
This ſaid, He gently rais'd the *Knight*,
And ſet him on his Bum upright:
To rouze him from Lethargick dump,
He tweak'd his Noſe with gentle thump,
Knock'd on his breaſt, as if 't had been
To raiſe the Spirits lodg'd within.
They wakened with the noiſe, did flye
From inward Room to Window eye,
And gently op'ning lid, the Caſement,
Lookt out, but yet with ſome amazement.
This gladded *Ralpho* much to ſee,
Who thus beſpoke the *Knight*: quoth he,
Tweaking his noſe, You are, great Sir,
A *ſelf-denying* Conqueror;
As high, victorious and great,
As e're fought for the Churches yet,
If you will give your ſelf but leave
To make out what y' already have;
That's Victory. The foe, for dread
Of your Nine-worthineſſe, is fled,
All ſave *Crowdero*, for whoſe ſake
You did th' eſpous'd *Cauſe* undertake:
And he lies priſ'ner at your feet,
To be diſpos'd as you think meet,

Either

Either for life, or death, or ſale,
The Gallows, or perpetual Jayl.
For one wink of your pow'rful eye
Muſt ſentence him to live, or dye;
His Fiddle is your proper purchace,
Wone in the Service of the *Churches*;
And by your doom muſt be allow'd
To be, or be no more, a *Crowd*.
For though ſucceſs did not confer
Juſt Title on the Conquerer;
Though *diſpenſations* were not ſtrong
Concluſions whether right or wrong;
Although *Out-goings* did not confirm,
And *Owning* were but a meer term:
Yet as the *wicked* have no *right*
*To th' Creature*, though uſurp'd by might,
The property is in the *Saint*,
From whom th' injuriouſly detain't;
Of him they hold their Luxuries,
Their Dogs, their Horſes, Whores, and Dice,
Their Riots, Revels, Masks, Delights,
Pimps, Buffoons, Fidlers, Paraſites:
All which the *Saints* have *title* to,
And ought t'enjoy, if th' had their due.
What we take from them is no more
Then what was ours by right before.
For we are their true *Landlords* ſtill,
And they our *Tenants* but at will.

At this the *Knight* begun to rouſe,
And by degrees grow valorous.
He ſtar'd about, and ſeeing none
Of all his foes remain but one,
He ſnatch'd his weapon that lay near him,
And from the ground began to rear him;
Vowing to make *Crowdero* pay
For all the reſt that ran away.
But *Ralpho* now in colder bloud,
His fury mildly thus withſtood:
Great Sir, quoth he, your mighty Spirit
Is rais'd too high, this Slave does merit
To be the Hangman's bus'neſſe, ſooner
Then from your hand to have the honour
Of his Deſtruction. I that am
A Nothingneſs in deed and name,
D.d ſcorn to hurt his forfeit Carcaſſe,
Or ill intreat his Fiddle or Caſe.
Will you, Great Sir, that glory blot
In cold bloud which you gain'd in hot?
VVill you employ your Conqu'ring Sword,
To break a Fiddle and your VVord?
For though I fought, and overcame,
And quarter gave, 'twas in your name.
For great Commanders alwayes own
What's proſperous by the Souldier done.
To ſave, where you have pow'r to kill,
Argues your Pow'r above your VVill;

And

And that your will and pow'r have leſſe
Then both might have of ſelfiſhneſſe.
This pow'r which now alive with dread
He trembles at, if he were dead,
Would no more keep the ſlave in awe
Then if you were a Knight of Straw:
For death would then be his Conqueror,
Not you, and free him from that terror.
If danger from his life accrew,
Or honour from his death to you;
'Twere policy, and honour too,
To doe as you reſolve to doe.
But Sir, 'twould wrong your Valour much,
To ſay it needs or fears a Crutch.
Great Conquerors greater glory gain
By foes in triumph led, then ſlain:
The Laurels that adorn their brows
Are pull'd from living, not dead boughs,
And living foes the greateſt fame
Of Cripple ſlain can be but lame.
One half of him's already ſlain,
The other is not worth your pain.
Th' Honour can but on one ſide light,
As Worſhip did, when y' were dub'd *Knight*.
Wherefore I think it better far,
To keep him Priſoner of war;
And let him faſt in bonds abide,
At *Court of Juſtice* to be try'd:

Where if h' appear so bold or crafty,
There may be danger in his safety;
If any Member there dislike
His face, or to his beard have pike;
Or if his death will save, or yield,
Revenge, or fright, it is *reveal'd*,
Though he has quarter, ne'retheless
Y'have pow'r to hang him when you please.
This hath been often done by some
Of our great Conquerors, you know whom;
And has by most of us been held
Wise Justice, and to some *reveal'd*.
For words and promises that yoke
The Conqueror, are quickly broke,
Like *Sampson's* Cuffs, though by his own
Direction and advice put on.
For if we should fight for the *Cause*
By rules of Military Laws,
And onely doe what they call just,
The *Cause* would quickly fall to dust.
This we among our selves may speak,
But to the *Wicked* or the Weak
We must be cautious to declare
*Perfection-truths*, such as these are.

This said, the high outragious mettle
Of *Knight* began to cool and settle.
He lik'd the *Squire's* advice, and soon
Resolv'd to see the bus'ness done:

And

And therefore charg'd him firſt to bind
*Crowdero*'s hands on rump behind,
And to its former place and uſe
The wooden member to reduce:
But force it take an *Oath* before,
*Ne're to bear arms* againſt him more.

*Ralpho* diſpatch'd with ſpeedy haſt,
And having ty'd *Crowdero* faſt,
He gave Sir *Knight* the end of Cord,
To lead the Captive of his ſword
In triumph, while the Steeds he caught,
And them to further ſervice brought.
The *Squire* in ſtate rode on before,
And on his nut-brown Whiniard bore
The Trophee-*Fiddle* and the *Caſe*,
Leaning on ſhoulder like a Mace.
The *Knight* himſelf did after ride,
Leading *Crowdero* by his ſide,
And tow'd him, if he lagg'd behind,
Like Boat againſt the Tide and Wind.
Thus grave and ſolemn they march on,
Untill quite through the Town th'had gone:
At further end of which there ſtands
An ancient Caſtle, that commands
Th' adjacent parts; in all the fabrick
You ſhall not ſee one ſtone nor a brick.
But all of wood, by pow'rful Spell
Of Magick made impregnable.

There's neither Iron-bar, nor Gate,
Port-cullis, Chain, or Bolt, or Grate:
And yet men durance there abide,
In Dungeon ſcarce three inches wide,
With Roof ſo low, that under it
They never ſtand, but lie, or ſit;
And yet ſo foul, that whoſo is in,
Is to the middle-leg in priſon,
In Circle Magical confin'd,
With walls of ſubtle air and wind,
Which none are able to break thorough,
Untill th' are freed by Head of Burrough.
Thither arriv'd, the advent'rous *Knight*
And bold *Squire* from their Steeds alight,
At th' outward wall, near which there ſtands
A Baſtile, built t'impriſon hands;
By ſtrange inchantment made to fetter
The leſſer parts, and free the greater.
For though the Body may creep through,
The Hands in Grate are faſt enough.
And when a circle 'bout the wriſt
Is made by Beadle Exorciſt,
The Body feels the Spur and Switch,
As if 'twere ridden Poſt by 'witch
At twenty miles an houer pace,
And yet ne're ſtirs out of the place.
On top of this there is a Spire,
On which Sir *Knight* firſt bids the *Squire*

The

The *Fiddle*, and its ſpoils, the *Caſe*,
In manner of a Trophee, place.
That done, they ope the Trap-dore-gate,
And let *Crowdero* down thereat.
*Crowdero* making doleful face,
Like Hermit poor in penſive place,
To Dungeon they the wretch commit,
And the ſurvivor of his feet:
But th' other, that had broke the peace,
And head of Knighthood, they releaſe,
Though a *Delinquent* falſe and forged,
Yet b'ing a Stranger, he's enlarged;
While his Comrade, that did no hurt,
Is clapt up faſt in priſon for't.
So *Juſtice, while ſhe winks at Crimes,*
*Stumbles on Innocence ſometimes.*

## THE ARGUMENT OF The THIRD CANTO.

*The ſcatter'd Rout return and rally,*
*Surround the Place, the* Knight *does ſally,*
*And is made Priſoner: then they ſeize*
*The Inchanted Fort by ſtorm, releaſe*
Crowdero, *and put the* Squire *in's place.*
*I ſhould have firſt ſaid,* Hudibras.

## Canto III.

AY me! what perils do inviron
The man that meddles with cold Iron!
What plaguy miſchiefs and miſhaps
Do dog him ſtill with after-claps!
For though Dame fortune ſeem to ſmile,
And leer upon him for a while,
She'l after ſhew him, in the nick
Of all his Glories a Dog-trick.
This any man may ſing or ſay
I'th' Ditty call'd, *What if a Day.*
For *Hudibras*, who thought h' had won
The field as ſuer as a Gun,
And having routed the whole troop,
With Victory was Cock-a-hoop;

Thinking

Thinking h' had done enough to purchaſe
*Thanksgiving-day* among the *Churches*,
Wherein his mettle and brave worth
Might be explain'd by *Holder-forth*,
And regiſter'd by fame eternal,
In Deathleſſe Pages of *Diurnal*;
Found in few minutes, to his Coſt,
He did but *Count without his Hoſt*;
And that a *Turn-ſtile* is more certain,
Then in events of War Dame Fortune.

For now, the late-faint-hearted Rout
O'rethrown and ſcatter'd round about,
Chac'd by the horrour of their fear
From bloudy fray of *Knight* and *Bear*,
(All but the *Dogs*, who in purſuit
Of the *Knight*'s Victory ſtood to't,
And moſt ignobly fought to get
The Honour of his bloud and ſweat)
Seeing the coaſt was free and clear
O'th' Conquer'd and the Conquerer,
Took heart at graſſe, and fac'd about,
As ir they meant to ſtand it out:
For by this time, the routed *Bear*
Attack'd by th' enemy i'th' rear,
Finding their number grew to great
For him to make a ſafe retreat,
Like a bold Chieftain fac'd about;
But wiſely doubting to hold out,

Gave

Give way to fortune, and with haſte
Fac'd the proud foe, and fled, and fac'd,
Retiring ſtill, untill he found
H' had got th' advantage of the Ground:
And then as valiantly made head;
To check the foe, and forthwith fled;
Leaving no Art untry'd, nor Trick
Of Warrior ſtout and Politick.
Untill in ſpight of hot purſuit,
He gain'd a Paſs, to hold diſpute
On better terms; and ſtop the courſe
Of the proud foe: With all his force
He bravely charg'd, and for a while
Forc'd their whole body to recoil:
But ſtill their numbers ſo encreaſt,
He found himſelf at length oppreſt,
And all evaſions ſo uncertain,
To ſave himſelf for better fortune,
That he reſolv'd, rather then yield,
To die with honour in the field,
And ſell his hide and carcaſe at
A price as high and deſperate
As e're he could. This Reſolution
He forthwith put in execution,
And bravely threw himſelf among
The enemy i' th' greateſt throng,
But what could ſingle valour doe
Againſt ſo numerous a foe?

Yet much he did, indeed too much
To be believ'd, where th' odds was ſuch:
But one againſt a multitude,
Is more then mortal can make good.
For while one party he oppos'd,
His Rear was ſuddenly enclos'd,
And no room left him for retreat,
Or fight againſt a foe ſo great,
For now the Maſtives charging home
To blows and handy-gripes were come;
While manfully himſelf he bore,
And ſetting his right foot before,
He rais'd himſelf, to ſhew how tall
His perſon was above them all.
This equal ſhame and envy ſtirr'd
In th' enemy, that one ſhould beard
So many Warriors and ſo ſtout
As he had done, and ſtand it out,
Diſdaining to lay down his Arms,
And yield on honourable terms.
Enraged thus ſome in the rear
Attack'd him, and ſome ev'ry where;
Till down he fell, yet falling fought,
And being down ſtill laid about;
As *Widdrington* in doleful Dumps
Is ſaid to fight upon his ſtumps.

But all, alas! had been in vain,
And he inevitably ſlain.

If *Trulla* and *Cerdon* in the nick
To reſcue him had not been quick.
For *Trulla*, who was light of foot,
As ſhafts which long-held *Parthians* ſhoot,
(But not ſo light as to be born
Upon the ears of ſtanding Corn,
Or trip it o're the Water quicker
Then Witches when their ſtaves they li-
As ſome report) was got among (quor,
The foremoſt of the Martial throng;
Where pittying the vanquiſht *Bear*,
She call'd to *Cerdon*, who ſtood near
Viewing the bloudy fight, to whom,
Shall we (quoth ſhe) ſtand ſtill *bum drum*,
And ſee ſtout *Bruin* all alone
By numbers baſely overthrown?
Such feats already h'has atchiev'd,
In ſtory not to be believ'd;
And 'twould to us be ſhame enough,
Not to attempt to fetch him off.

I would (quoth he) venture a Limb
To ſecond thee, and reſcue him:
But then we muſt about it ſtraight,
Or elſe our aid will come too late.
Quarter he ſcorns, he is ſo ſtout,
And therefore cannot long hold out.
This ſaid, they wav'd their weapons round
About their heads, to clear the ground;

And joyning forces laid about
So fiercely, that th' amazed rout
Turn'd tail again, and ſtraight begun,
As if *the Devil drove*, to run. *Brum.*
Meanwhile th' approach'd the place where
Was now engag'd to mortal ruine:
The conquering foe they ſoon aſſail'd;
Firſt *Trulla* ſtav'd, and *Cerdon* tail'd,
Untill the Maſtives loos'd their hold:
And yet, alas! doe what they could,
The worſted *Bear* came off with ſtore
Of bloudy wounds, but all before.
For as *Achilles* dipt in Pond,
Was *anabaptiz'd* free from wound,
Made proof againſt dead-doing ſteel
All over but the Pagan heel:
So did our Champion's arms defend
All of him but the other end,
His head and ears, which in the Martial
Encounter loſt a Leathern parcel.
For as an *Auſtrian Archduke* once
Had one ear (which in *Ducatoons*
Is half the coyn) in battel par'd
Cloſe to his head; ſo *Brum* far'd:
But tugg'd and pull'd on th' other ſide,
Like *Scrivener* newly crucifi'd;
Or like the late corrected Leathern
Ears of the *circumciz'ed Brethren*.

But gentle *Trulla* into th' ring
He wore in's nose convey'd a string,
With which she marcht before, and led
The Warrior to a grassy Bed,
As Authors write, in a cool shade,
Which Eglentine and Roses made,
Close by a softly-murm'ring stream
Where Lovers us'd to loll and dream.
There leaving him to his repose,
Secured from pursuit of foes,
And wanting nothing but a Song.
And a well-tun'd *Theorbo* hung
Upon a Bough, to ease the pain
His tugg'd ears suffer'd, with a strain.
They both drew up, to march in quest
Of his great Leader, and the rest.

For *Orsin* (who was more renown'd
For stout maintaining of his ground
In standing fights then for pursuit,
As being not so quick of foot)
Was not long able to keep pace
With others that pursu'd the Chace,
But found himself left far behind,
Both out of heart and out of wind;
Griev'd to behold his *Bear* pursu'd
So basely by a multitude,
And like to fall, not by the prowess,
But numbers of his Coward foes.

He

He rag'd and kept as heavy a coyl as
Stout *Hercules* for loſſe of *Hylas*,
Forcing the Vallies to repeat
The accents of his ſad regret.
He beat his breaſt, and tore his hair.
For loſſe of his dear Crony *Bear*:
That Echo from the hollow ground
His doleful wailings did refound
More wiſtfully, by many times,
Then in ſmall Poets ſplay-foot rimes,
That make her, in their ruthful ſtories,
To anſwer to inter'gatories,
And moſt unconſcionably depoſe
To things of which ſhe nothing knows:
And when ſhe has ſaid all ſhe can ſay,
'Tis wreſted to the Lover's fancy.
Quoth he, O whether, wicked *Bruin*,
Art thou fled to my — Echo, *ruine?*
I thought th' hadſt ſcorn'd to budge a ſtep,
For fear. (Quoth Echo) *Marry guep.*
Am not I here to take thy part?
Then what has quail'd thy ſtubborn heart?
Have theſe bones ratled, and this head
So often in thy quarrel bled?
Nor did I ever winch or grudge it,
For thy dear ſake. (Quoth ſhe) *Mum budget:*
Think'ſt thou 'twill not be laid i'th' diſh,
Thou turn'dſt thy back? Quoth Echo, *Piſh.*

To

To run from those th' hadst overcome
Thus cowardly? Quoth Echo, *Mum.*
But what a-vengeance makes thee flye
From me too, as thine enemy?
Or if thou hast no thought of me,
Nor what I have endur'd for thee,
Yet shame and honour might prevail
To keep thee thus from turning tail:
For who would grutch to spend his bloud in
His honour's cause? Quoth she, *a Puddin.*
This said, his grief to anger turn'd,
VVhich in his manly stomach burn'd;
Thirst of Revenge and Wrath, in place
Of Sorrow, now began to blaze.
He vow'd the Author of his woe
Should equal vengeance undergo;
And with his bones and flesh pay dear
For what he suffer'd and his Bear.
This b'ing resolv'd, with equal speed
And rage he hasted to proceed
To action straight, and giving o're
To search for *Brain* any more,
He went in quest of *Hudibras*,
To find him out, where e're he was:
And if he were above ground, vow'd
He'd ferret him, lurk where he wou'd.

But scarce had he a furlong on
This resolute adventure gone,

When

When he encounter'd with that Crew
Whom *Hudibras* did late subdue.
Honour, Revenge, Contempt and Shame,
Did equally their breasts enflame.
'Mong these the fierce *Magnano* was,
And *Talgol* foe to *Hudibras*;
*Cerdon* and *Colon*, warriors stout
And resolute as ever fought:
Whom furious *Orsin* thus bespoke,

Shall we (quoth he) thus basely brook
The vile affront, that paultry Asse
And feeble *Scoundrel Hudibras*,
With that more paultry *Ragamuffin*
*Ralpho*, with vapouring and huffing
Have put upon us, like tame Cattel,
As if th' had routed us in battel?
For my part, it shall ne're be sed,
I for the washing gave my head:
Nor did I turn my back for fear
O'th' Rascals, but losse of my *Bear*,
Which now I'm like to undergo;
For whether these fell wounds, or no,
He has receiv'd in fight are mortal,
Is more then all my skill can foretell.
Nor do *I know* what is become
Of him, *more then the Pope of Rome.*
But if I can but find them out,
That caus'd it, (as I shall no doubt,

Where

Where e're th' in Hugger-mugger lurk)
I'le make them rue their handy-work;
And wish that they had rather dar'd,
To *pull the Devil by the beard.*

Quoth *Cerdon*, Noble *Orsin*, th' hast
Great reason to doe as thou say'st;
And so has ev'ry body here
As well as thou hast or thy Bear.
Others may doe as they see good;
But if this Twig be made of wood
That will hold tack, I'le make the fur
Flie 'bout the ears of the old Cur,
And th' other mungrel Vermin, *Ralph*,
That brav'd us all in his behalf.
Thy Bear is safe and out of peril,
Though lugg'd indeed, & wounded very ill
My self and *Trulla* made a shift
To help him out at a dead lift;
And having brought him bravely off,
Have left him where he's safe enough.
There let him rest, for if we stay,
The Slaves may hap to get away.

This said, they all engag'd to joyn
Their forces in the same design:
And forthwith put themselves in search
Of *Hudibras* upon their march.

Where

VVhere leave we them a while, to tell
VVhat the victorious *Knight* befell:
For such, *Crowdero* being fait
In Dungeon shut we left him last.
Triumphant Laurels seem'd to grow
No where so green as on his brow:
Laden with which, as well as tir'd
VVith conquering toil, he now retir'd
Unto a neighb'ring Castle by,
To rest his body, and apply
Fit med'cines to each glorious bruise
He got in fight, *Reds*, *blacks*, and *blews*;
To mollifie th' uneasie pang
Of ev'ry honourable bang.
VVhich b'ing by skilful Midwife dresst,
He laid him down to take his rest.

But all in vain. H' had got a hurt
O'th' inside, of a deadlier sort,
By *Cupid* made, who took his stand
Upon a Widow's joynture-land,
(For he, in all his amorous battels,
No 'dvantage finds like goods and chattels)
As now he did, and aiming right,
An arrow he let flie at *Knight*:
The shaft against a rib did glance,
And gall him in the *Purtenance*.
But time had somewhat swag'd his pain,
After he found his suit in vain.

For

For that proud Dame, for whom his ſoul
Was burnt in's belly like a coal,
(That belly that ſo oft did ake
And ſuffer griping for her ſake,
Till purging Comfits and Ants eggs
Had almoſt brought him off his leggs)
Us'd him ſo like a baſe *Raſcallion*,
That old *Pyg*-(what d'y' call him?) *malion*,
That cut his Miſtreſs out of ſtone,
Had not ſo hard-a-hearted one.
She had a thouſand jadiſh tricks,
Worſe then a Mule that flings and kicks:
'Mong which one croſs-grain'd freak ſhe (had,
As inſolent and ſtrange and mad:
She could love none but onely ſuch
As ſcorn'd and hated her as much.
'Twas a ſtrange Riddle of a Lady;
Not love, if any lov'd her? ha day!
So Cowards never uſe their might,
But againſt ſuch as will not fight.
So ſome diſeaſes have been found
Onely to ſeize upon the ſound.
He that gets her by heart muſt ſay her
The back-way, like a Witche's prayer.
Meanwhile the *Knight* had no ſmall task,
To compaſs what he durſt not ask.
He loves, but dares not make the motion;
Her *ignorance* is his *devotion*.

Like

Like Caitiff vile, that for misdeed
Rides with his face to rump of Steed.
Or rowing Scull, he's fain to love,
Look one way, and another move;
Or like a Tumbler that does play
His game, and look another way,
Untill he seize upon the Coney:
Just so does he by Matrimony.
But all in vain: her subtle snout
Did quickly wind his meaning out;
Which she return'd with too much scorn,
To be by man of Honour born.
Yet much he bore, untill the distress
He suffer'd from his spightful Mistress
Did stir his stomach, and the pain
He had endur'd from her disdain
Turn'd to regret, so resolute,
That he resolv'd to wave his suit,
And either to renounce her quite,
Or for a while play least in sight.
This Resolution b'ing put on,
He kept some months, and more had done;
But being brought so nigh by fate,
The Victory he atchiev'd so late
Did set his thoughts agog, and ope
A dore to discontinu'd hope,
That seem'd to promise he might win
His Dame too now his hand was in;

And

And that his valour and the honour
H'had newly gain'd might work upon her.
These reasons made his mouth to water
With amorous longing to be at her.

Quoth he unto himself, Who knows
But this brave Conquest o're my foes
May reach her heart, and make that stoop,
As I but now have forc'd the Troop?
If nothing can oppugn love,
And Vertue invious wayes can prove,
What may not he confide to doe
That brings both love and vertue too?
But thou bring'st valour too and wit,
Two things that seldom fail to hit.
Valour's a mouse-trap, Wit a gin,
Which women oft are taken in.
Then, *Hudibras*, why shouldst thou fear
To be, that art a Conquerer?
Fortune th' audacious doth *juvare*,
But lets the timidous miscarry.
Then while the honour thou hast got
Is spick and span-new, piping hot,
Strike her up bravely thou hadst best,
And trust thy fortune with the rest.

Such thoughts as these the *Knight* did keep,
More then his bangs or fleas, from sleep.

And

And as an Owl that in a Barn
Sees a Mouſe creeping in the Corn,
Sits ſtill, and ſhuts his round blew eyes,
As if he ſlept, until he ſpies
The little beaſt within his reach,
Then ſtarts, and ſeizes on the wretch:
So from his Couch the *Knight* did ſtart,
To ſeize upon the Widow's heart;
Crying with haſty tone and hoarſe,
*Ralpho*, diſpatch, to horſe, to horſe.
And 'twas but time, for now the Rout
We left engag'd to ſeek him out,
By ſpeedy marches were advanc'd
Up to the fort where he enſconc'd,
And had all th' avenues poſſeſt
About the place from Eaſt to Weſt.

That done, a while they made a halt,
To view the Ground, and where t' aſſault;
Then call'd a Councel, which was beſt,
By ſiege or onſlaught, to inveſt
The enemy: and 'twas agreed,
By ſtorm and onſlaught to proceed.
This b'ing reſolv'd, in comely ſort,
They now drew up t' attack the fort,
When *Hudibras*, about to enter
Upon another gate's adventure,
To *Ralpho* call'd aloud to arm,
Not dreaming of approching ſtorm,

Whether Dame Fortune, or the care
Of Angel bad, or Tutelar,
Did arm, or thruſt him on a danger,
To which he was an utter ſtranger;
That Foreſight might, or might not blot
The glory he had newly got;
Or to his ſhame it might be ſed,
They took him napping in his bed:
To them we leave it to expound,
That deal in Sciences profound.

His Courſer ſcarce he had beſtrid,
And *Ralpho* that on which he rid,
When ſetting ope the Poſtern gate,
VVhich they thought beſt to ſally at,
The foe appear'd, drawn up and drill'd,
Ready to charge them in the field.
This ſomewhat ſtartled the bold *Knight*,
Surpriz'd with th' unexpected ſight.
The bruiſes of his bones and fleſh
He thought began to ſmart afreſh:
Till recollecting wonted courage,
His fear was ſoon converted to rage.
And thus he ſpoke: The Coward foe,
VVhom we but now gave quarter to,
Look, yonder's rally'd, and appears,
As if they had outrun their fears.
The Glory we did lately get,
The fates command us to repeat.

And

And to their wills we must succumb,
*Quocunq; trahimur*, 'tis our doom.
This is the same numerick crew
Which we so lately did subdue,
The self-same individuals that
Did run, as Mice do from a Cat,
When we couragiously did wield
Our martial weapons in the field,
To tug for Victory: and when
We shall our shining blades agen
Brandish in terrour o're our heads,
They'l straight resume their wonted dreads.
Fear is an Ague that forsakes
And haunts by turns those whom it takes.
And they'l opine they feel the pain
And blows, they felt to day, again.
Then let us boldly charge them home,
And make no doubt to overcome.

This said, his courage to enflame,
He call'd upon his *Mistris* name.
His Pistol next he cockt anew,
And out his nut-brown Whiniard drew.
And placing *Ralpho* in the front,
Reserv'd himself to bear the brunt;
As expert Warriors use: then ply'd
With Iron-heel his Courser's side,
Conveying Sympathetick speed
From heel of *Knight* to heel of Steed.

Meanwhile the foe with equal rage
And speed advancing to engage,
Both Parties now were drawn so close,
Almost to come to handiblows.
When *Orsin* first let fly a stone
At *Ralpho*; not so huge a one
As that which *Diomed* did maul
*Æneas* on the Bum withall:
Yet big enough, if rightly hurl'd,
T' have sent him to another world;
Whether above-ground, or below;
Which *Saints twice dipt* are destin'd to.
The danger startled the bold *Squire*,
And made him some few steps retire.
But *Hudibras* advanc'd to's aid,
And rouz'd his spirits half dismay'd.
He, wisely doubting lest the shot
Of th' enemy, now growing hot,
Might at a distance gall, prest close,
To come, pell-mell, to handiblows:
And that he might their aim decline,
Advanc'd still in an oblique line;
But prudently forbore to fire,
Till breast to breast he had got nigher:
As expert VVarriors use to doe,
VVhen hand to hand they charge the foe.
This order the advent'rous *Knight*
Most Souldierlike observ'd in fight:

When Fortune (as she's wont) turn'd fickle,
And for the foe began to stickle.
The more shame for her *goody-skip*,
To give so near a friend the slip.
For *Colon* chusing out a stone,
Levell'd so right, it thumpt upon
His manly paunch, with such a force,
As almost beat him off his horse.
He loos'd his whiniard, and the reyn:
But laying fast hold on the mane,
Preserv'd his seat: And as a Goose
In death contracts his talons close;
So did the *Knight*, and with one claw
The tricker of his Pistol draw.
The Gun went off: and as it was
Still fatal to stout *Hudibras*,
In all his feats of Arms, when least
He dreamt of it, to prosper best;
So now he far'd; the Shot let flie
At randome 'mong the enemy,
Pierc'd *Talgol*'s Gaberdine, and grazing
Upon his shoulder, in the passing
Lodg'd in *Magnano*'s brass Habergeon,
Who straight *A Surgeon* cry'd, *a Surgeon*.
He tumbled down, and as he fell,
Did *Murther, murther, murther* yell.
This startled their whole body so,
That if the *Knight* had not let go

His Arms, but been in warlike plight,
H' had won (the second time) the fight.
As *Ralpho* might; but he with care
Of *Hudibras* his hurt forbare
To presse the th' advantage of his fortune,
While danger did the rest dishearten.
For he with *Cerdon* b'ing engag'd
In close encounter, they both wag'd
The fight so well, 'twas hard to say
Which side was like to get the day.
And now the busie work of death
Had tir'd them so, th' agreed to breath,
Preparing to renew the fight;
When the disaster of the *Knight*
And th' other party did divert
Their fell intent, and forc'd them part.
*Ralpho* prest up to *Hudibras*,
And *Cerdon* where *Magnano* was;
Each striving to confirm his party
With stout encouragements and hearty.
Quoth *Ralpho*, Courage, valiant Sir,
And let revenge and honour stir
Your spirits up, once more fall on,
The shatter'd foe begins to run:
For if but half so well you know
To use your Victory as subdue,
They durst not, after such a blow
As you have giv'n them, face us now:

But

But from ſo formidable a Souldier (der.
Had fled like Crows when they ſmell pow-
Thrice have they ſeen your Sword aloft
Wav'd o're their heads, and fled as oft.
But if you let them recollect
Their ſpirits, now diſmay'd and checkt,
You'l have a harder game to play,
Then yet y' have had, to get the day.

Thus ſpoke the ſtout *Squire*; but was heard
Of *Hudibras* with ſmall regard.
His thoughts were fuller of the bang
He lately took, then *Ralph's* harangue;
To which he anſwer'd, Cruel fate
Tells me thy Counſel comes too late.
The knotted bloud within my hoſe,
That from my wounded body flows,
With mortal *Criſis* doth portend
My dayes to appropinque an end.
I am for action now unfit,
Either of fortitude or wit.
*Fortune my foe* begins to frown,
Reſolv'd to pull my ſtomack down.
I am not apt upon a wound,
Or trivial baſting, to deſpond:
Yet I'd be loth my dayes to curtal,
For if I thought my wounds not mortal,
Or that we'd time enough as yet
To make an honourable retreat,

'Twere the beſt courſe: but if they find
We flie, and leave our Arms behind,
For them to ſeize on, the diſhonour
And danger too is ſuch, I'le ſooner
Stand to it boldly, and take quarter,
To let them ſee I am no ſtarter,
In all the trade of War, no feat
Is nobler then a brave retreat.

This ſaid, the *Squire* with active ſpeed
Diſmounted from his bonny Steed,
To ſeize the Arms which by miſchance
Fell from the bold *Knight* in a trance.
Theſe being found out, and reſtor'd
To *Hudibras*, their natural Lord,
As a man may ſay, with might and main,
He haſted to get up again.
Thrice he aſſay'd to mount aloft;
But by his weighty bum as oft
He was pul'd back: till having found
Th' advantage of the riſing ground,
Thither he led his warlike ſteed,
And having plac'd him right, with ſpeed
Prepar'd again to ſcale the beaſt.
Whom *Orſin*, who had newly dreſt
The bloudy ſcar upon the ſhoulder
Of *Talgol* with *Promethean* powder,
And now was ſearching for the ſhot
That laid *Magnano* on the ſpot,

Beheld

Beheld the ſturdy *Squire* aforeſaid
Preparing to climb up his horſe-ſide.
He left his Cure, and laying hold
Upon his Arms, with courage bold
Cry'd out, 'tis now no time to dally,
The enemy begins to rally:
Let us that are unhurt and whole
Fall on, and happy man be's dole.

This ſaid, like to a thunderbolt
He flew, with fury, to th' aſſault,
Striving the enemy to attack
Before he reacht his horſe's back.
*Ralpho* was mounted now, and gotten
O'rethwart his beaſt with active vaulting,
Wrigling his body to recover
His ſeat, and caſt his right leg over;
When *Orſin* ruſhing in, beſtow'd
On horſe and man ſo heavy a load,
The beaſt was ſtartled, and begun
To kick and fling like mad, and run,
Bearing the tough *Squire* like a Sack,
Or ſtout King *Richard*, on his back:
Till ſtumbling he threw him down,
Sore bruis'd, and caſt into a ſown.
Meanwhile the *Knight* began to rouſe
The ſparkles of his wonted proweſſe;
He thruſt his hand into his hoſe,
And found both by his eyes and noſe,

'Twas onely choler, and not bloud,
That from his wounded body flow'd.
This, with the hazard of the *Squire*,
Inflam'd him with despightful ire;
Courageously he fac'd about,
And drew his other Pistol out,
And now had half-way bent the Cock
When *Cerdon* gave so fierce a shock,
With sturdy truncheon, thwart his arm,
That down it fell, and did no harm;
Then stoutly pressing on with speed,
Assay'd to pull him off his Steed.
The *Knight* his Sword had onely left,
With which he *Cerdon*'s head had cleft,
Or at the least crept off a limb,
But *Orsin* came and reseu'd him.
He with his Launce attack'd the *Knight*
Upon his quarters opposite.
And as a Bark that in foul weather,
Tost'd by two adverse winds together,
Is bruis'd, and beaten to and fro,
And knows not which to turn him to:
So far'd the *Knight* between two foes,
And knew not which of them t'oppose.
Till *Orsin* charging with his Launce
At *Hudibras*, by sprightful chance
Hit *Cerdon* such a bang, as stunn'd
And laid him flat upon the ground.

At

At this the *Knight* began to chear up,
And raising up himself on stirrup,
Cry'd out *Victoria*; lie thou there,
And I shall straight dispatch another,
To bear thee company in death:
But first I'le halt awhile and breath.
As well he might: for *Orsin* griev'd
At th' wound that *Cerdon* had receiv'd,
Ran to relieve him with his lore,
And cure the hurt he made before.
Meanwhile the *Knight* had wheel'd about,
To breath himself, and next find out
Th' advantage of the ground, where best
He might the ruffled foe infest.
This b'ng resolv'd, he spurr'd his Steed,
To run at *Orsin* with full speed,
While he was busie in the care,
Of *Cerdon*'s wound, and unaware:
But he was quick, and had already
Unto the part apply'd remedy;
And seeing th' enemy prepar'd,
Drew up, and stood upon his guard.
Then like a Warrior right expert
And skilful in the Martial art,
The subtle *Knight* straight made a halt,
And judg'd it best to stay th' assault,
Untill he had reliev'd the *Squire*,
And then (in order) to retire;

Or,

Or, as occasion should invite,
With forces joyn'd renew the fight.
*Ralpho* by this time disentranc'd,
Upon his Bum himself advanc'd,
Though sorely bruis'd; his limbs all o're
With ruthlesse bangs were stiff and sore.
Right fain he would have got upon
His feet again, to get him gone;
When *Hudibras* to aid him came.

Quoth he, (and call'd him by his name)
Courage, the day at length is ours,
And we once more as Conquerours,
Have both the field and honour won,
The Foe is profligate and run:
I mean all such as can, for some
This hand hath sent to their long home;
And some lie spralling on the ground,
With many a gash and bloudy wound.
*Cæsar* himself could never say
He got two victories in a day,
As I have done, that can say, twice I.
In one day, *Veni, vidi, vici.*
The foes so numerous, that we
Cannot so often *vincere*
As they *perire*, and yet enough
Be left to strike an after-blow.
Then lest they rally, and once more
Put us to fight the busnesse o're,

Get up, and mount thy Steed, dispatch,
And let us both their motions watch.

Quoth *Ralph*, I should not, if I were
In case for action, now be here;
Nor have I turn'd my back, or hang'd
An arse, for fear of being bang'd:
It was for you I got these harms,
Advent'ring to fetch off your Arms.
The blows and drubs I have receiv'd,
Have bruis'd my body, and bereav'd
My limbs of strength: unless you stoop,
And reach your hand to pull me up,
I shall lie here, and be a prey
To those who now are run away.

That shalt thou not (quoth *Hudibras:*)
We read the Ancients held it was
More honourable far *Servare*
*Civem*, then slay an adversary.
The one we oft to day have done;
The other shall dispatch anon.
And though th' art of a diff'rent Church,
I will not leave thee in the lurch.
This said, he jogg'd his good Steed nigher,
And steer'd him gently toward the *Squier*:
Then bowing down his body stretcht
His hand out, and at *Ralpho* reacht;

When *Trulla*, whom he did not mind,
Charg'd him like Lightening behind.
She had been long in search about
*Magnano*'s wound, to find it out:
But could find none, nor where the shot
That had so startled him was got.
But having found the worst was past,
She fell to her own work at last,
The Pillage of the Prisoners,
Which in all fears of Arms was hers:
And now to plunder *Ralph* she flew,
When *Hudibras* his hard fate drew
To succour him: for as he bow'd
To help him up, she laid a load
Of blows so heavy, and plac'd so well,
On th' other side, that down he fell.

Yield, *Scoundrel* base, (quoth she) or die;
Thy life is mine and liberty.
But if thou think'st I took thee tardy,
And dar'st presume to be so hardy,
To try thy fortune o're afresh,
I'le wave my title to thy flesh,
Thy Arms and baggage, now my right:
And if thou hast the heart to try't,
I'le lend thee back thy self a while,
And once more for that carcase vile
Fight upon tick — Quoth *Hudibras*,
Thou offer'st nobly, valiant Lasse,

And

And I shall take thee at thy word.
First let me rise, and take my sword;
That sword which has so oft this day
Through Squadrons of my foes made way,
And some to other worlds dispatcht,
Now with a feeble Spinster matcht,
Will blush with bloud ignoble stain'd,
By which no honour's to be gain'd.
But if thou'lt take m'advice in this,
Consider while thou may'st, what 'tis
To interrupt a Victor's course,
B'opposing such a trivial force.
For if with Conquest I come off,
(And that I shall doe sure enough)
Quarter thou canst not have nor grace,
By Law of Arms, in such a case;
Both which I now do offer freely.

I scorn (quoth she) thou Coxcomb silly,
(Clapping her hand upon her breech,
To shew how much she priz'd his speech)
Quarter or Counsel from a foe:
If thou canst force me to it, do.
But lest it should again be fed,
When I have once more wore thy head,
I took thee napping unprepar'd,
Arm, and betake thee to thy guard.

This

This ſaid, ſhe to her tackle fell.
And on the *Knight* let fall a peal
Of blows ſo fierce, and preſt ſo home,
That he retir'd and follow'd's bum.
Stand to't, quoth ſhe, or yield to mercy;
It is not fighting *Arſie-verſie*
Shall ſerve thy turn — This ſtirr'd his ſpleen
More then the danger he was in,
The blows he felt, or was to feel,
Although th' already made him reel.
Honour, Deſpight, Revenge and Shame,
At once unto his ſtomach came;
Which fir'd it ſo, he rais'd his arm
Above his head, and rain'd a ſtorm
Of blows ſo terrible and thick,
As if he meant to haſh her quick.
But ſhe upon her truncheon took them,
And by oblique diverſion broke them;
Waiting an opportunity
To pay all back with uſury.
Which long ſhe fail'd not of, for now
The *Knight* with one dead-doing blow
Reſolving to decide the fight,
And ſhe with quick and cunning flight
Avoiding it, the force and weight
He charg'd upon it was ſo great,
As almoſt ſway'd him to the ground.
No ſooner ſhe th' advantage found,

Bit

But in ſhe flew, and ſeconding
With home-made thruſt the heavy ſwing,
She laid him flat upon his ſide,
And mounting on his trunk a-ſtride,
Quoth ſhe, I told thee what would come
Of all thy vapouring, baſe Scum.
Shall I have quarter now? you Ruffin?
Or wilt thou be worſe then thy huffing?
Thou ſaidſt th'woud'ſt kill me, marry woul'ſt thou:
Why doſt thou not, thou *Jack-a-Nods* thou?
Why doſt not put me to the ſword?
But cowardly flie from thy word?

Quoth *Hudibras*, the day's thine own;
Thou and thy ſtars have caſt me down;
My Laurels are tranſplanted now,
And flouriſh on thy conqu'ring brow:
My loſs of honour's great enough,
Thou need'ſt not brand it with a ſcoff,
Sarcaſms may eclipſe thine own,
But cannot blur my loſt renown:
I am not now in Fortune's power,
*He that is down can fall no lower.*
The ancient *Hero's* were illuſtrious,
For b'ing benigne, and not bluſtrous,
Againſt a vanquiſht foe: their ſwords
Were ſharp and trenchant, not their words;

And

And did in fight but cut work out
T' employ their Courteſies about.

Quoth ſhe, Although thou haſt deſerv'd,
Baſe *Slubberdegullion*, to be ſerv'd
As thou didſt vow to deal with me,
If thou hadſt got the victory;
Yet I ſhall rather act a part
That ſuits my fame, then thy deſert.
Thy arms, thy liberty, beſide
All that's on th' outſide of thy hide,
Are mine by Military Law,
Of which I will not bate one ſtraw:
The reſt, thy life and limbs, once more,
Though doubly forfeit, I reſtore.

Quoth *Hudibras* it is too late
For me to treat or ſtipulate;
What thou command'ſt I muſt obey:
Yet thoſe whom I expugn'd to day,
Of thine own party, I let go,
And gave them life and freedom too,
Both *Dogs* and *Bear*, upon their parol,
Whom I took priſ'ners in this quarrel.

Quoth *Trulla*, Whether thou or they
Let one another run away,
Concerns not me; but was't not thou
That gave *Crowdero* quarter too?

*Crowdero*

*Crowdero*, whom in Irons bound,
Thou basely threw'st into *Lob's pound*:
Where still he lies, and with regret
His generous bowels rage and fret.
But now thy carcase shall redeem,
And serve to be exchange for him.

This said, the *Knight* did straight submit,
And laid his weapons at her feet.
Next he disrob'd his Gaberdine,
And with it did himself resign.
She took it, and forthwith devesting
The Mantle that she wore, said jesting,
Take that, and wear it for my sake;
Then threw it o're his sturdy back.
And as the *French* we conquer'd once,
Now give us Laws for Pantaloons,
The length of Breeches, and the gathers,
Port-canons, Perriwigs, and Feathers;
Just so the proud insulting Lass
Array'd and dighted *Hudibras*.

Meanwhile the other Champions, yerst
In hurry of the fight dispersit,
Arriv'd, when *Trulla* 'd won the day,
To share in th' honour and the prey,
And out of *Hudibras* his hide
With vengeance to be satisfi'd;

Which

Which now they were about to pour
Upon him in a wooden showre.
But *Trulla* thrust her self between,
And striding o're his back agen,
She brandish'd o're her head his sword,
And vow'd they should not break her word;
Sh' had giv'n him quarter, and her bloud
Or theirs should make that quarter good.
For she was bound by Law of Arms,
To see him safe from further harms.
In *Dungeon* deep *Crowdero* cast
By *Hudibras* as yet lay fast,
Where to the hard and ruthless stones
His great heart made perpetual moans.
Him she resolv'd that *Hudibras*
Should ransom, and supply his place.

This stopt their fury, and the hasting
Which toward *Hudibras* was hasting.
They thought it was but just and right,
That what she had atchiev'd in fight,
She should dispose of how she pleas'd:
*Crowdero* ought to be releas'd;
Nor could that any way be done
So well as this she pitcht upon:
For who a better could imagine?
This therefore they resolv'd t' engage in.
The *Knight* and *Squier* first they made
Rise from the ground where they were laid;

Then

Then mounted both upon their Horſes,
But with their faces to the *Arſes*,
*Orſin* led *Hudibras*'es beaſt,
And *Talgol* that which *Ralpho* preſt;
Whom ſtout *Magnano*, valiant *Cerdon*
And *Colon* waited as a Guard on,
All uſh'ring *Trulla*, in the reer
With th'arms of either priſoner.
In this proud order and array
They put themſelves upon their way,
Striving to reach th'*inchanted caſtle*,
Where ſtout *Crowders* in durance lay ſtill;
Thither with greater ſpeed, then ſhows
And triumphs over conquer'd foes
Do uſe t' allow, or then the *Bears*
Or *Pageants* born before *Lord Mayors*
Are wont to uſe, they ſoon arriv'd,
In order Souldierlike contriv'd,
Still marching in a warlike poſture,
As fit for Battel as for Muſter.
The *Knight* and *Squire* they firſt unhorſe,
And bending 'gainſt the Fort their force,
They all advanc'd, and round about
Begirt the *Magical Redoubt*.
*Magnan'* led up in this adventure,
And made way for the reſt to enter.
For he was skilful in *Black Art*
No leſs then he that built the Fort;

And

And with an Iron Mace laid flat
A breach, which straight all enter'd at,
And in the wooden Dungeon found
*Crowdero* laid upon the ground.
Him they release from durance base,
Restor'd t' his *Fiddle* and his *Case*,
And liberty, his thirsty rage
With lushious vengeance to assuage.
For he no sooner was at large,
But *Trulla* straight brought on her charge,
And in the self-same *Limbo* put
The *Knight* and *Squire* where he was shut.
Where leaving them in *Hockly i'th' hole*,
Their bangs and durance to condole,
Confin'd and conjur'd into narrow
Enchanted mansion, to know sorrow;
In the same order and array
Which they advanc'd, they march'd away.

But *Hudibras*, who scorn'd to stoop
To Fortune, or be said to droop,
Chear'd up himself with ends of verse,
And sayings of Philosophers.
Quoth he, th' one half of man, his Mind,
Is *Sui juris*, unconfin'd,
And cannot be laid by the heels,
Whate're the other moity feels.
'Tis not Restraint or Liberty
That makes men prisoners or free;

But

But perturbations that poſſeſs
The mind or Æquanimities.
The whole world was not half ſo wide
To *Alexander*, when he cry'd
Becauſe he had but one to ſubdue,
As was a paultry narrow tub to
*Diogenes*, who is not ſed
(For ought that ever I could read)
To whine, put finger i'th' eye, and ſob
Becauſe h'had ne're another *Tub*.
The Ancients make two ſeveral kinds
Of Proweſſe in heroick minds,
The *Activ'*, and the *Paſſive* valiant;
Both which are *pari libra* gallant:
For both, to give blows and to carry,
In fights are equeneceſſary;
But in defeats, the paſſive ſtout
Are alwayes found to ſtand it out
Moſt deſp'rately, and to out-doe
The Active, 'gainſt a conqu'ring foe.
Though we with blacks and blews are ſug-
Or, as the Vulgar ſay, are *cudgell'd*: (gill'd,
He that is valiant, and dares fight,
Though drubb'd, can loſe no honour by't.
Honour's *a leaſe for time to come*,
And cannot be *extended* from
The legal Tenant: 'tis a Chattel,
Not to be forfeited in battel.

If

If he that is in Battel slain,
Be in the *Bed of Honour* lain;
He that is beaten may be sed
To lye in Honour's *Truckle-bed*.
For as we see th' eclipsed Sun
By mortals is more gaz'd upon,
Then when adorn'd with all his light
He shines in serene skie most bright:
So Valour in a low estate
Is most admir'd and wonder'd at.

Quoth *Ralph*, How great I do not know
We may by being beaten grow;
But none that see how here we sit,
Will judge us overgrown with wit.
As *gifted Brethren* preaching by
A *Carnal Hour-glass*, do imply
*Illumination* can convey
Into them what they have to say,
But not how much: so well enough
Know you to charge, but not draw off.
For who without a *Cap* and *Bauble*,
Having subdu'd a *Bear* and *Rabble*,
And might with honour have come off,
Would put it to a second proof:
A politick exploit, right fit
For *Presbyterian Zeal* and *wit*.

Quoth

Quoth *Hudibras*, that Cuckow's tone,
*Ralpho*, thou alwayes harp'st upon:
When thou at any thing wouldst rail,
Thou mak'st *Presbytery* thy scale
To take the height on't, and explain
To what degree it is prophane.
Whats'ever will not with thy (*what d'y' call?*)
Thy *light* jump right thou call'st *Synodical*.
As if *Presbytery* were a standard
To size whats'ever's to be slander'd.
Dost not remember how this day
Thou to my beard wast bold to say,
That thou couldst prove, *Bear-baiting* equal
With *Synods*, orthodox and legal?
Do if thou canst, for I deny't,
And dare thee to't with all thy *light*.

Quoth *Ralpho*, truly that is no
Hard matter for a man to doe
That has but any *guts in's brains*,
And could believe it worth his pains.
But since you dare and urge me to it,
You'l find I've *light* enough to doe it.

*Synods* are mystical *Bear-gardens*,
Where *Elders*, *Deputies*, *Church-wardens*,
And other Members of the Court,
Manage the *Babylonish* sport.

For *Prolocutor*, *Scribe*, and *Bearward*,
Do differ onely in a mere word.
Both are but ſev'ral Synagogues
Of *carnal Men*, and *Bears* and *Dogs*:
Both *Antichriſtian Aſſemblies*,
To miſchief bent as far's in them lies:
Both ſtave and tail, with fierce conteſts,
The one with men, the other beaſts.
The diff'rence is, the one fights with
The tongue, the other with the teeth;
And that they bait but *Bears* in this,
In th' other *Souls* and *Conſciences*;
Where *Saints* themſelves are brought to ſtake
For *Goſpel-light* and *Conſcience* ſake;
Expos'd to *Scribes* and *Presbyters*,
Inſtead of *Maſtive-dogs* and *Curs*:
Then whom th' have leſſe humanity,
For theſe at ſouls of men will flie.
This to the *Prophet* did appear,
Who in a Viſion ſaw a *Bear*,
Prefiguring the beaſtly rage
Of *Church-rule* in this later age:
As is demonſtrated at full
By him that baited the *Pope's Bull*.
*Bears* naturally are beaſts of prey,
That live by rapine, ſo do they.
What are their *Orders*, *Conſtitutions*,
*Church-cenſures*, *Curſes*, *Abſolutions*,

But

But several mystick chains they make,
To tie poor Christians to the stake?
And then set heathen *Officers*,
Instead of *Dogs*, about their ears.
For to prohibit and dispence,
To find out or to make offence,
Of hell and heaven to dispose,
To play with souls at fast and loose;
To set what Characters they please,
And mulcts on Sin or Godlinesse;
Reduce the Church to *Gospel-order*.
By *Rapine*, *Sacrilege*, and *Murther*;
To make *Presbytery* supreme,
And *Kings* themselves submit to them;
And force all people, though against
*Their Consciences*, to turn *Saints*,
Must prove a pretty thriving trade,
When *Saints* Monopolists are made.
When *pious* frauds and *holy* shifts
Are *dispensations* and *gifts*,
There *Godlinesse* becomes mere ware,
And ev'ry *Synod* but a Fair.

*Synods* are whelps of the *Inquisition*,
A mungrel breed of like pernicion,
And growing up became the Sires
Of *Scribes*, *Commissioners* and *Triers*;
Whose business is, by cunning sleight
To cast a figure for mens *Light*;

To find in lines of beard and face,
The Physiognomy of *Grace*;
And by the sound and *twang of Nose*,
If all be *sound* within disclose,
Free from a crack or flaw of sinning,
As men try *Pipkins* by the ringing.
By *black-caps*, underlaid with *white*,
Give certain gues at inward *Light*;
Which *Serjeants at the Gospel* wear,
To make their *spiritual calling* clear.
The *hand-kercher* about the neck
(Canonical *Crabat* of *Smeck*,
From whom the Institution came,
When Church and State they set on flame,
And worn by them as badges then
Of *Spiritual warfaring* men)
Judge rightly if *Regeneration*
Be of the *newest Cut* in fashion.
Sure 'tis an Orthodox opinion
That *Grace is founded in dominion*.
Great *Piety* consists in Pride;
To *rule* is to be *sanctifi'd*:
To domineer and to controul
Both o're the body and the soul,
Is the most perfect *discipline*
Of Church-rule, and by *right divine*.
*Bel* and the *Dragon's* Chaplains were
More moderate then these by far:

For

For they (poor Knaves) were glad to cheat,
To get their Wives and Children meat;
But theſe will not be fobb'd off ſo,
They muſt have wealth and power too,
Or elſe with bloud and defolation
They'l tear it out o'th' heart o'th' Nation.

Sure theſe themſelves from Primitive
And Heathen Prieſthood do derive,
When *Butchers* were the only *Clerks*,
*Elders* and *Presbyters* of *Kirks*,
Whoſe *Directory* was to *kill*;
And ſome believe it is ſo ſtill.
The only diff'rence is, that then
They ſlaughter'd onely *beaſts*, now *men*.
For then to ſacrifice a Bullock,
Or now and then a child to *Moloch*,
They count a vile abomination,
But not to ſlaughter a whole *Nation*.
*Presbyterie* does but tranſlate
The Papacy to a *Free State*.
A *Common-wealth of Poperie*,
Where ev'ry Village is a *See*
As well as *Rome*, and muſt maintain
A *Tithe-pig-Metropolitan*;
Where ev'ry *Presbyter* and *Deacon*
Commands the *Keyes* for Cheeſe and Bacon;
And ev'ry Hamblet's governed
By's *Holineſſe*, the *Churche's head*.

More haughty and ſevere in's place
Then *Gregorie* and *Boniface*.
Such Church muſt (ſurely) be a Monſter
With many heads: for if we conſter
What in th' *Apocalyps* we find,
According to th' Apoſtle's mind,
'Tis that the *Whore of Babylon*
*With many heads* did ride upon;
Which Heads denote the ſinful tribe
Of *Deacon*, *Prieſt*, *Lay-elder*, *Scribe*.
*Lay-elder*, *Simeon* to *Levi*,
Whoſe little finger is as heavy
As loynes of Patriarchs, Prince-Prelate;
And Biſhop ſecular. This Zelot
Is of a muggrel, diverſe kind,
*Clerick* before, and *Lay* behind;
A Lawleſs *linſie-woolſie brother*,
Half of one Order, half another;
A Creature of amphibious natu:e,
On land a Beaſt, a Fiſh in water;
That alwayes preys on Grace, or Sin;
A Sheep without, a Woolf within.
This fierce Inquiſitor has chief
Dominion over mens Belief
And Manners; can pronounce
A Saint Idolatrous, or ignorant,
When ſuperciliouſly he ſifts
Through courſeſt boulter others *gifts*,

For

For all men live and judge amiſs
VVhoſe *Talents* jump not juſt with his.
He'l lay on *Gifts* with hands, and place
On dulleſt noddle *light* and *grace*,
The manifacture of the *Kirk*,
Whoſe Paſtors are but th' Handiwork
Of his mechanick Pawes, inſtilling
Divinity in them by feeling,
From whence they ſtart up *choſen veſſels*,
Made by Contact, as men get *Meazles*.
So *Cardinals*, they ſay, do grope
At th' other end the new-made *Pope*.

Hold, hold, quoth *Hudibras*, *Soft fire*,
They ſay, *does make ſweet malt*. Good *Squire*,
*Feſtina lente*, not too faſt;
For *haſte* (the Poverb ſayes) *makes waſte*.
The Quirks and Cavils thou doſt make
Are falſe, and built upon miſtake.
And I ſhall bring you, with your pack
Of *Fallacies*, t' *Elenchi* back;
And put your Arguments in mood
And figure, to be underſtood.
I'le force you by right ratiocination
To leave your *Vitilitigation*,
And make you keep to th' queſtion cloſe,
And argue *Dialectice*.

The Question then, to state it first,
Is which is *better*, or which *worst*,
*Synods* or *Bears*. *Bears* I avow
To be the worst, and *Synods* thou.
But to make good th' Assertion,
Thou say'st they are really *all one*.
If so, not *worst*; for if th' are *idem*,
Why then, *Tantundem dat tantidem*.
For if they are the *same*, by course
Neither is *better*, neither *worse*.
But I deny they are the *same*,
More then a *Maggot* and *I* am.
That both are *Animalia*,
I grant, but not *Rationalia*:
For though they do agree in kind,
Specifick difference we find,
And can no more make *Bears* of these,
Then prove *my horse is Socrates*.

That *Synods* are *Bear-gardens* too,
Thou dost affirm; but I say no:
And thus I prove it, in a word,
Whats'ever *Assembly's* not impowr'd
To *censure*, *curse*, *absolve*, and *ordain*,
Can be no *Synod*: but *Bear-garden*
Has no such pow'r, *Ergo* 'tis none.
And so thy Sophistry's o'rethrown.

But

But yet we are beſide the Queſtion
Which thou didſt raiſe the firſt conteſt on;
For that was, Whether *Bears* are *better*
Then *Synod-men*; I ſay, *Negatur*.
That *Bears* are *Beaſts*, and *Synods men*,
Is held by all: They'r *better* then.
For *Bears* and *Dogs* on *four* legs go.
As Beaſts, but *Synod-men* on *two*.
'Tis true, they all have *teeth* and *nailes*;
But prove that *Synod-men* have *tails*;
Or that a rugged, ſhaggy *fur*
Grows o're the hide of *Presbyter*;
Or that his ſnout and *ſpacious ears*
Do hold proportion with a *Bear's*.
A *Bear's* a ſavage beaſt, of all
Moſt ugly and unnatural,
Whelpt without form, untill the Dam
Have lickt him into ſhape and frame:
But all thy *light* can ne're evict
That ever *Synod-man* was *lickt*;
Or brought to any other faſhion
Then his own will and inclination.

But thou doſt further yet in this
Oppugne thy ſelf and ſenſe, that is,
Thou wouldſt have *Presbyters* to go
For *Bears* and *Dogs* and *Bearwards* too.

A ſtrange *Chimæra* of Beaſts and Men,
Made up of pieces Heterogene,
Such as in Nature never met
*In eodem ſubjecto* yet.

Thy other Arguments are all
Suppoſures, Hypothetical,
That do but beg, and we may chuſe
Either to grant them or refuſe.
Much thou haſt ſaid, which I know when,
And where, thou ſtol'ſt from other men,
(Whereby 'tis plain thy *light* and *gifts*
Are all but plagiary ſhifts;)
And is the ſame that *Rantor* ſed,
That arguing with me, broke my head,
And tore a handful of my Beard:
The ſelf-ſame Cavils then I heard,
When b'ing in hot diſpute about
This Controverſie, we fell out;
And what thou know'ſt I anſwer'd then,
Will ſerve to anſwer thee agen.

Quoth *Ralpho*, Nothing but th' abuſe
Of *Humane Learning* you produce;
*Learning* the Cobweb of the brain,
*Profane*, erroneous, and vain;
A trade of Knowledge as repleat
As others are with fraud and cheat;

An

An art t' incumber *Gifts* and wit,
And render both for nothing fit;
Makes *light* unactive, dull and troubled,
Like little *David* in *Saul*'s Doubler;
A cheat that Scholers put upon
Other mens reaſon and their own;
A ſort of Error, to enſconce
Abſurdity and Ignorance;
That renders all the avenues
To Truth impervious and abſtruſe,
By making plain things, in debate,
By art, perplext and intricate;
For nothing goes for ſenſe or *Light*
That will not with old Rules jump right.
As if Rules were not in the Schools
Deriv'd from Truth, but Truth from Rules.
This *Pagan, Heathenish invention*
Is good for nothing but Contention.
For as in Sword-and-Buckler fight,
All blows do on the Target light:
So when men argue, the great'ſt part
O'th' Conteſt falls on Terms of art,
Untill the fuſtian ſtuff be ſpent,
And then they fall to th' Argument.

Quoth *Hudibras*, Friend *Ralph*, thou haſt
*Out-run the Conſtable* at laſt;
For thou art fallen on a new
Diſpute, as ſenſeleſs and untrue,

But

But to the former oppoſite,
And *contrary as black to white*;
Mere *Diſparata*, that concerning
*Presbytery*, this *Humane Learning*;
Two things s' averſe, they never yet
But in thy rambling fancy met.
But I ſhall take a fit occaſion
T'evince thee by Ratiocination,
Some other time, in place more proper
Then this w' are in: therefore let's ſtop here,
And reſt our weary'd bones awhile,
Already tir'd with other toil.

FINIS.